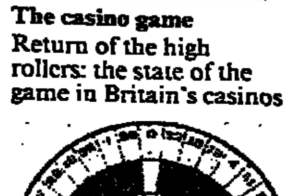
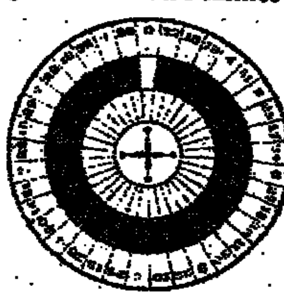
THE TIMES

No 61,766 — FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24 1984 — 20p



Tomorrow

The casino game
Return of the high rollers: the state of the game in Britain's casinos



Tibetan journey
A pilgrimage to the heart of Tibet

Hot meals
Values looks at the microwave warm-up

British Council
What have TS Eliot and the Think Tank in common? George Walden explains

Rugby
David Hands previews Rugby's John Player Cup

ICI anger at fall in shares

The chairman of ICI, Mr John Harvey-Jones, angrily criticized the stock market for marking the group's shares lower despite a £360m surge in profits. The shares fell 16p to 576p after ICI reported profits of £619m for 1983 and an increased dividend Page 21

Junta arrest

The former Commander of Argentina's Air Force, Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, became the third member to be arrested of the Junta which ordered the Falklands Invasion Page 7



Stronger pound

Sterling rose 1.15 cents to close at $1.4625, its highest level since November 30, on foreign exchange markets made jittery by the flare-up in the Gulf war.

Cigarette tax

Health ministers are pressing Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to increase the price of a packet of cigarettes by 20p in the Budget Page 2

Crash inquest

A teenage girl who was one of six survivors of the Isles of Scilly helicopter crash told the inquest of her fight to keep alive in the sea Page 3

Grenada appeal

A foreign legal team has appealed against the Grenadin courts' refusal to allow British lawyers to represent people accused of murdering Maurice Bishop Page 7

Liberal hope

Liberals in Chesterfield claim that they can win over enough Conservative voters by polling day next week to beat Mr Tony Benn in the by-election Page 2

French offer £160 per driver as blockade goes on

- A grant of 2,000 francs (£160) is being offered by the French Government as a first instalment to all lorry drivers trapped by the worsening road blockade
- High in the Italian Alps, stranded Britons demanded that Whitehall fly them home and hire guards for their marooned vehicles
- France hinted that it might use troops to clear the roads, but only as a last resort. Madame Edith Gresson, the French Foreign Trade Minister, said in London that the police were unable to cope
- Thousands of British holidaymakers face long delays this weekend. One coach operator is planning to bring passengers home by air and rail (Back page)

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French Government announced yesterday that it has offered a grant of 2,000 francs (£160) as a first instalment in financial assistance to all lorry drivers, French and foreign, trapped in the Alps by the continuing dispute. It has also been in contact with insurance companies to try to persuade them to cover the cost of lost cargoes.

This latest development came as the situation became ever more confused, with dozens more blockades going up in some areas of France, while others were being taken down. Mr Ray Whitney, Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, had talks with French officials in Paris on the question of compensation for British drivers, and said afterwards: "We agreed we should keep in touch on this issue."

British Embassy officials said that there were more than 300 British lorries in the approach roads up to the Mont Blanc and Frejus tunnels on the French side of the border and about another 100 on the Italian side. Consulate officials were in direct contact with many of them, mainly giving information, comfort and advice, but also attending to some isolated specific needs such as money and medical care. Most drivers were carrying credit cards and did not therefore have immediate cash problems.

Sir John Fretwell, the British Ambassador, said that reports indicated that while there may initially have been some sympathy for the French lorry drivers, most British drivers were now growing increasingly exasperated by the cold and discomfort and wanted to get home.

Leading article page 13

The main road out of Paris to Charles de Gaulle airport remained blocked yesterday and Mr Whitney, along with most other airpassengers, was obliged to take the express metro to the airport to catch his flight back to London. Others flew in by helicopter at a cost of 4,800 francs for a round trip for four.

Police, out in force in the Greater Paris area, managed to keep the *Perepherique* round the capital free from blockades by banning all articulated lorries, and also succeeded in preventing a threatened total blockade of the international Rungis meat and vegetable market to the south of the city.

The main black spots remained the Nord-Pas de Calais region, which includes the Channel ports of Dunkerque, Calais, and Boulogne; the Rhone-Alps area, where the trouble first began; the Marseilles area, where new blockades went up; Lorraine; and the northeastern suburbs of Paris. In virtually all areas, some traffic is now being allowed to filter through, however.

Fifteen foreign lorries, including some British, were reported to have been allowed through the blockade at Cluses on the road up to the Mont Blanc tunnel. French lorries carrying heating fuel, petrol, and food provisions detsined for the ski reports in the Chamonix valley were also being allowed through.

In Paris the Government remained firm, refusing to give in to pressure for the immediate resumption of negotiations, but repeating its readiness to reopen talks on March 1, given a "gesture of goodwill" by the lorry drivers.

The four ministers most immediately concerned are now meeting twice daily to discuss the dispute which is starting to have a serious effect on the economic activities and the supply of provisions in some areas, as well as traffic flows.

M Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister who presided over yesterday's emergency ministerial meetings in the absence of M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, said that

Continued on back page, col 1

Stranded British lorry drivers demand to be flown home

From Patricia Clough, Courmayeur

Tension neared explosion point 5,000 feet up in the Italian Alps yesterday as stranded British lorry drivers demanded that the British Government fly them home and hire guards for their marooned vehicles. Hundreds of British schoolchildren skiing happily down the sun-drenched slopes at Courmayeur risked being stranded on the wrong side of the Channel this weekend as the French drivers' blockade of roads and ports dragged on with no end in sight.

Twenty-six British drivers blocked at the Italian end of the Mont Blanc tunnel met Mr Cyril Cole, the British consul in Milan, at Courmayeur police station and demanded to be flown home and to have their lorries guarded until the blockade is over.

Mr Gordon Pirie, a spokesman for the consulate said that they were in touch with the Foreign Office to see if this could be done. But those lorry drivers who could not pay their own fare home would need to sign an undertaking that they would reimburse the Government later on, he said.

"Why shouldn't the Government pay to get us out of this jam," exploded Mr Giuseppe Di Gennaro, a British owner driver from Bedford. "Its not our fault we are here."

"They spend millions on the war in the Falklands. Why won't they spend anything on us," asked Mr Dave Smith of Liverpool.

Resentment was building up fast among the 40 or so British drivers kicking their heels on the high mountain road leading to the tunnel as days dragged past, money got scarcer and the Government – in their view – seemed uninterested in their plight.

"If it goes on much longer there will be trouble" Mr Les Mullin, of Selby Bridge in Yorkshire said. "It would only take a silly incident to start something off."

Nerves have already begun to fray. A misunderstood joke, a sharp dig in the ribs from an Italian customs officer and Mr Tony Govey, aged 28, of Southampton found himself in a brawl with four customs men. "It ended up with a gun pointed at my head and handcuffs on my wrists," he said. "A session with an interpreter in the customs chief's office cleared the air but the same thing could happen again at any moment.

Bad feelings between British and French drivers are rising to the surface. The British drivers recall that during their strike in Britain French drivers were allowed to come and go at will while now they were being penalized by the French action. "I think we should hit back," Mr Di Gennaro said "We should ban them from England.

French lorry drivers howled down British colleagues being interviewed for Belgain television. "We said the blockade wasn't our concern, they said it was and so on" Mr Mullin said. The television had to scrap the recording.

The Italian authorities are providing the drivers with two free hot meals a day – "We owe a lot to the locals" – but the British accused the French of appropriating all the other free food and clean clothing being distributed along the road. "There is never anything left for us". Among a group of a dozen drivers eating pasta at a local restaurant the only thought was to get out. "We can't continue in these conditions much longer" said Mr Mullin, who has been stranded by the blockade or customs go slow for three weeks.

Israeli planes pound Lebanon

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israeli bombers yesterday pounded targets deep inside Lebanon for third time this week, as part of a new, intensified strategy aimed at preventing the reestablishment of a Palestinian military infrasturcture in areas abandoned by the Israeli Army when it retreated south last year to the Awali river.

It is understood that the bombing sorties will continue, especially in the area of Bhamdoun, the town 12 miles south-east of Beirut hit again yesterday, where the Israeli Army claims that large numbers of militant Palestinians from various groups have established bases and arms dumps in abandoned buildings.

Israel's military command said that two buildings "used as terrorist headquarters and bases" and a 130mm artillery position were hit in yesterday's noon attack. The controversial strategy has been approved by the Cabinet and is intended to continue, despite proposals now under consideration for a secondary withdrawal to a line further south than the Awali. "Whenever we have a good target, we will attack it", explained one Israeli source.

The Israelis have acknowledged for the first time that a number of innocent workmen from Bangladesh were killed or wounded when their jets attacked a warehouse near the coastal town of Damour on Sunday. The Israelis calim that the workers (whom they suggest were being used as "sweated labour" by a Lebanese employer) were sharing the large building with members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

Combined with Monday's massive show of Israeli armour on roads north of the Awali, the air attacks are an attempt physically to prevent Palestinian reinfiltration, and to deliver a sharp warning to Druze militiamen not to shelter

Continued on page 6, col 2

Mr Jack Hart (right), chairman of the GCHQ union committee, speaking to Mr Kinnock as civil servants lobbyed MPs at the Commons yesterday after a rally.

Thatcher rejects Cheltenham union options

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Prime Miniser last night gave an uncompromising rejection of trade union proposals to maintain membership at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) and made it clear that she was convinced the proposed union ban would be accepted by almost all the 7,000 staff involved.

The nine Civil Service unions responded immediately by calling on their 600,000 members to stage a half-day strike next Tuesday as a "demonstration of repugnance and anger" at Mrs Margaret Thatcher's stance in the meeting in Downing Street. The unions are urging members to attend lunchtime protest rallies and not to return to work in the afternoon.

Mrs Thatcher told the unions during an hour's meeting yesterday that she was not prepared to concede the principle of union membership at the secret communication bases and argued that to do so "could even put people's lives at risk".

Union negotiators emerged from the meeting shocked at the vehemence of the Prime Minister's remarks which they said were "deeply offensive". They are due to meet again today to plan further action beyond Tuesday's protest and an emergency meeting of the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, is likely to be held on Monday to discuss the GCHQ crisis.

It was clear from the meeting in Downing Street that Mrs Thatcher was not prepared to countenance the presence of national trade unions at GCHQ. She argued that union membership carried an inherent conflict of loyalty. The maintenance of security and intelligence services came first, she told the unions.

The unions said that they would not accept the Government's decision and would campaign to get it changed by "this Government or the next Government if necessary".

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, who went to Downing Street with the Civil Service union leaders, said that he resented the Prime Minister's implication that union membership "makes me a potential traitor".

Whitehall sources claimed last night that as many as two thirds of GCHQ employees had now signed forms renouncing union membership and it is clear that the Government is confident of winning over those who have not signed before the March 1 deadline.

Ministers leaving the meeting with the unions were at pains to explain that the GCHQ union ban was not the forerunner to curbs on union membership in other areas of Government operations. Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said that it was "absolutely and categorically" not the Government's intention to extend the union ban.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said as he left Downing Street: "Our position is plain and our decision stands." He said that it was unreasonable to expect staff in "an agency of such crucial importance" to be subject to the pressures exerted during the 1981 campaign of selective strikes.

The unions had presented to the Government a four-point package of proposals which guaranteed, they claimed, that there would be no future disruption of GCHQ operations as a result of industrial action. However, it was made clear by Mrs Thatcher that there was a "gap that could not be bridged"

Basque leader shot dead

The number three figure in the Basque Socialist Party and a leading candidate for Sunday's general elections in the autonomous region was assassinated yesterday at his home in San Sebastian by a hooded gunman immediately taken to be from ETA, the Basque separatist movement, (Richard Wigg writes).

Señor Enriques Casas, aged 47, an Andalusian-born physisist and Senator in the Madrid Parliament was gunned down on the stairs of his home as he was preparing to return to party headquarters after lunch.

The killing came as campaigning, which will end at midnight tonight, went into top gear in the Basque country.

It provioked immediate reactions in the Madrid Parliament and Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish Prime Minister, spoke immediately on learning of the killing by phone with Señor Carlos Caraicoechea the outgoing Chief Minister of the Basque autonomous government.

Tax rise for building societies

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Building societies face much higher tax bills and home buyers possibly a longer wait for mortgages, following a change in the way societies are taxed on their investment profits.

The change, announced yesterday by the Inland Revenue was roundly condemned by building society chiefs. It could double the amount of tax societies pay on their investment profits, mainly from government stocks.

Investment profits previously were taxed as capital gains with a maximum rate of 30 per cent. Profits on government stocks held for more than a year were free of tax. Now investment profits will be taxed at the special building society rate of 40 per cent.

Mr Richard Weir, secretary-general of the Building Societies Association, said: "This is an absolute bombshell."

The latest figures show that building societies paid £117m of tax in 1982. The new rules would have added £120m to their tax bill.

Mr Brian Phillips, general manager of finance at the Nationwide Building Society, said the move would reduce the amount of money available for mortgages.

Cabinet 'horror' at pit incident

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday expressed to Mr Ian MacGregor, the National Coal Board chairman, the "horror" he and Cabinet colleagues felt at the "appalling violence" shown to Mr MacGregor at Ellington colliery, Northumberland, on Wednesday.

After a visit to Mr MacGregor at the board headquarters in London, Mr Walker said he had come to express regret at what had happened and support for the way Mr MacGregor was trying to create a successful industry.

The Coal Board chairman wa clearly upset at the way the incident had been reported. On television and in the papers he was shown lying stunned on the ground after being shoved over by a crowd of miners protesting about the planned loss of 600 jobs at the nearby Bates colliery.

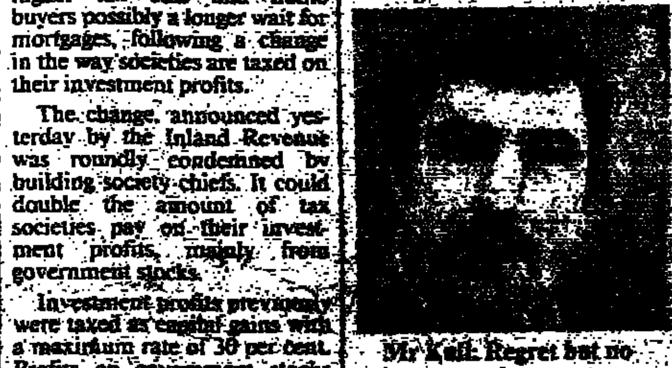
Yesterday as Mr MacGregor waved his fist at reporters, crying: "You people want you heads examined – why don't you leave me alone".

In the commons, the Prime Minister called the incident "disgraceful". Mr Neil Kinnock the Labour leader, accused her of "trying to make mischief out of regrettable incident".

Northumbria police are preparing a report for the Home Office.

Before a fence collapsed, sending Mr MacGregor on to the ground, a man was seen grabbing the lapels of his jacket.

Yesterday, the man, Mr John Kull, aged 31, an underground worker, said he



Mr Kull: Regret but no apology.

had held Mr MacGregor because he wanted to stop and talk.

"I have nothing to be ashamed of and there will be no apology from me", Mr Kull said. "I am sorry he got knocked over but it was the crowd, not me."

- Mr MacGregor has written to thank Mr Mick Owen, a BBC reporter, who went to his aid when he was knocked down.

Mr MacGregor wrote: "The behaviour of the men who confronted us was not typical of the people who work in the industry. It is a pity that a few hotheads can do so much harm to coal's reputation."

Three shipyards bid to replace Sir Galahad

Three British state-owned shipyards, Cammell Laird at Birkenhead, Swan Hunter on the Tyne and Harland and Wolff in Belfast are lining up to win what, in emotional terms, will be the most important contract for years – the replacement for the 5,600-ton Sir Galahad landing ship. The vessel will cost between £30m and £40m.

Sir Galahad, one of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary's logistic landing ships, was bombed by Argentine forces on June 8, 1982, in Bluff Cove in the Falklands. Thirty-three Welsh guardsmen lost their lives

Cotton gets job to overhaul BBC

By David Hewson

Mr Aubrey Singer, the managing director of BBC Television, left the corporation yesterday and was replaced by Mr Bill Cotton, who had been responsible for its satellite broadcasting project.

BBC sources denied that the departure of Mr Singer after 35 years with the corporation had anything to do with its recent dismal audience ratings and its battle for an increase in the licence fee next year.

However, the BBC described Mr Cotton, a former head of BBC 1 and light entertainment, as a man with a popular eye who will take a sharp look at the present schedules.



Mr Singer (left): Replaced by Mr Cotton

Staff in BBC news and current affairs programmes are particularly worried that any reworking of the television output to bring in more viewers would particularly affect them.

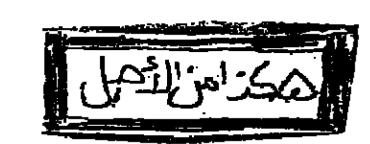
Mr Cotton, aged 55, son of the late band leader Billy Cotton, joined the corporation as a freelance producer, and produced his father's popular variety shows. As head of light entertainment, he developed programmes like *Top of the Pops*, *Morecambe and Wise*, *Jim'll Fix It*, and the Michael Parkinson show.

Mr Singer, aged 58, who was appointed managing director of the television service two years ago, was instrumental in developing the BBC's reputation for science features. He started *Horizon*, *Tommorrow's World*, and *Man Alive*, and later, as controller of BBC2, commissioned *I Claudius* and *Life on Earth*.

Mr Singer refused to elaborate on a prepared statement yesterday in which he said that the terms of his departure had been discussed over the last seven weeks, apparently before the controversy over the corporation's showing of the American series *The Thorn Birds*.

He said: "I shall be producing drama and documentary programmes for the BBC and others."

Yesterday's meeting of the board of governors also promoted Mr Alan Protheroe, the assistant director-general, who will now deputize for Mr Milne. Mr Geoffrey Buck, presently deputy director of finance, will succeed Mr Paul Hughes as director of finance.



Chesterfield by-election

Liberals claim they can win enough Tory votes to catch up by polling day

From Colin Hughes
Chesterfield

Liberals in Chesterfield claimed yesterday that they are stripping enough votes from the Conservatives to catch Mr Tony Benn, the Labour candidate, by by-election polling day next Thursday.

Their confidence gained some support from a poll broadcast by Central Television last night, which showed the Conservative vote slumping from 23 per cent to 14 per cent, while the Alliance rose from 29 per cent to 35 per cent.

But the Labour vote, when Central Television's pollsters, Network Intelligence interviewed a 500-voter sample last Sunday, had risen to 49 per cent against 46 per cent when thesame group was interviewed two weeks before.

Mr Cyril Smith, the Liberal MP meeting voters in Chesterfield market yesterday beforethe poll, said: "It is between us and Labour. Anyone who votes Tory is going to waste their vote."

He believed the Conservative candidate, Mr Nicholas Bourne, could lose his deposit. "We can still take more Tory votes, and I believe it is neck and neck with one week to go" Mr Smith said.

The Conservative campaign has been directed largely at Mr Benn's left-wing reputation, but only 4 per cent of the Central Television sample now thought he was an issue compared with 10 per cent at the start of the campaign.

Labour ahead in national poll

Labour had edged ahead of the Conservatives for the first time since before the Falklands war, according to a opinion poll, published yesterday.

In a Marplan poll carried out for *The Guardian*, Labour has the backing of 40 per cent of voters, against 39 per cent for the Tories, 20 per cent for the Liberal/SDP Alliance, and others 1 per cent.

The poll shows that the Alliance is also gaining at the expense of the Tories. Figures from the same poll last month were: Conservatives 42 per cent, Labour 38 per cent, Alliance 19 per cent, others 1 per cent.

Marplan interviewed a sample of 1,439 people between February 9 and 13 for the latest poll.

Earlier, the Liberal press Officer, Mr Paul Medicott, said his party had concentrated on the Conservative voters so far. "We have not really got going in the Labour areas yet: that is next week's task".

Both Labour and Liberal have planned mass canvassing, with 500 supporters each working this weekend. Both say they have already knocked on every door in the town, but the Conservatives, who admit they have not yet visited every home, questioned the claim.

Up to now the Liberals have privately admitted that their greatest handicap is the clumsiness of their candidate, Mr Max Payne, but he now has a handicap of his own. He is being treated for a burst chilblain, from walking in the Peak District, and can now walk for only two hours a day. "I suppose the media will say I am losing us fewer votes now", he joked yesterday.

The media were Mr Benn's focus yesterday, when he visited the weekly local newspaper and told staff that much of the by-election coverage was now pressmen interviewing each other. "I think the next stage is that the candidates will not be necessary", he said.

Mr Smith, who was making his first official party appearance since his dispute with Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, at last year's party conference over links with the Social Democrats, was unrepentant. "David and I still have a disagreement over strategy. I think we should be out campaigning for the Liberals, but we have no disagreement on policies", he said.

He met his match in one stall holder, Mr Jethro Adlington, who has trimmed nearly four stone from 23 stone in the past six weeks. "I used to be as big as you", he told Mr Smith to general disbelief.

General election result: E G Varley (Lab), 23,881; N Bourne (C), 16,118; M Payne (L/All), 9,705. Lab maj. 7,763.

Floppy disc comes to aid of the party

By Anthony Bevins,
Political Correspondent

Mr Tony Benn's youngest son, Mr Joshua Benn is hoping to take the tedium out of elections and revolutionize the practice of politics, with the help of a floppy disc.

Mr Benn, aged 26 and a music publisher with no political track record, is currently running a computer experiment which could provide vital by-election votes for his father, the Labour candidate in Chesterfield on March 1.

Details of the electorate in one of the constituency's wards, New Whittington, which has about 3,000 voters, have been transferred to a floppy disc and as canvas returns are brought in they are punched into the computer.

On March 1, the party will be able, at the push of a button, to provide an updated record of New Whittington Labour voters who have not been to the polling stations. They will then become targets for increased doorstep pressure by party workers.

Mr Benn said yesterday that in the past once promises to vote had been established by canvassers on the doorstep they had been entered on canvas cards and a series of complex manual operations had followed on polling day as the party had attempted to get out its maximum vote. With the computer program, developed by Mr John Leach, of Dover, "efficiency can be doubled and even quadrupled", he said.

The computer, a £399 BBC micro, could even be used to save people cutting out and sticking up electoral registers into canvas cards, providing ready-printed returns in a fraction of the time. "It certainly saves personpower," Mr Benn said.

"This is the first real test of the software in a by-election. It will be used to remove some of the drudgery and tedium of the traditional election campaign. I am sure they are going to be used more widely. I can see this being the forerunner of a great revolution, not only in the Labour Party, but in politics in general."

Mr Joshua Benn: "Quadrupling efficiency"

But the Conservatives and the Liberals do not seem so sure.

Mrs Shirley Stotter, the Conservative agent in the Chesterfield by-election, said that the Tories had bought ready-addressed, self-adhesive labels of the Chesterfield electorate for use on election literature. But she indicated that the by-election rush had been a factor in that decision.

Mr Michael Spicer, MP for Worcestershire and deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, said that they had experimented with computers in elections, but they were concentrating on the computerization of membership at the moment.

As for the Chesterfield Liberals, they had not even bought the ready-addressed labels. One party worker said yesterday: "Our envelopes are all hand-addressed.



'Doubtfuls' worrying for Labour

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Tony Benn's agent in the Chesterfield by-election on March 1 has said that the result could be tight.

A frank analysis of the campaign in yesterday's *Labour Weekly*, the official party newspaper, said that the number of doorstep "doubtfuls" was still worrying and that the Liberals "had shifted themselves into second place".

It also reported: "Nothing can be safely, or justifiably, predicted until it is clear that the Labour vote has held and that the Liberals have failed to attract Tories in large numbers."

Mr Peter Coleman, the regional organizer for the East Midlands who is acting as Mr Benn's agent for the by-election, told the newspaper that concentrated attention on the doubtfuls was beginning to show signs of paying off.

He said: "We are reducing the numbers of doubtfuls and also trying in-depth canvassing to identify whether voters are inclined to the Tories or Liberals if they are not with us. If our vote holds,then there should be no problem."

He added: "If there is a high proportion of doubtfuls who choose to go against us, the calculation is that we will still win but that it would be much tighter than we originally anticipated."

● Mr Eric Varley, whose resignation as MP caused the Chesterfield by-election, set off for the Falklands yesterday and will miss polling day on March 1.

"I am going on a fact-finding tour and will meet members of the island's government and the civil commissioner, Sir Rex Hunt". Mr Varley, who is deputy chairman of the Coalite group which owns most of the Falklands, said.

London cheaper for tourists

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

London is progressively becoming a cheaper tourist destination, now standing ninth among 14 capital cities for expense, according to the British Tourist Authority's latest survey.

There have been conflicting claims about how expensive London is, especially for the overseas visitor, so the BTA asked for an indepdent survey by Staniland Hall Associated, the economic consultants, which has now been carried out over a period of nearly two years.

In November, 1982, London was seventh most expensive in the international capitals league, dropping to eighth place in May 1983. The latest survey in which London moved down a further place was carried out in November last year.

The British capital was particularly cheap for transport and services – from hairdressing to dry cleaning – fourth cheapest in the survey sample for shopping and seventh cheapest for accommodation and eating out.

Judged on a mixture of public transport, taxi costs and some car hire charges London was the cheapest of all the capitals, for transport. In services it was next to the cheapest, beaten only by Rome.

But on entertainment costs, covering theatres, cinemas, art galleries and other attractions charging entrance fees, London ranked fifth. Only Tokyo, New York, Toronto and Sydney were more expensive.

In the overall ratings New York was the most expensive destination though Tokyo was rated most expensive for shopping, transport and entertainment. Above London in the overall list were, in descending order of costs, Tokyo, Stockholm, Toronto, Sydney, Zurich, Copenhagen and Brussels.

Cheaper were Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Rome and Madrid. Cheaper than London for accommodation and eating out were Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Rome, Brussels, Paris and Madrid.

Compared with London it was cheaper to shop in Madrid, Rome and Frankfurt, according to the survey.

Sir Henry Marking, BTA's chairman, commented: "London is not only holding its own in the international cost league but there is a continuing trend for the capital's prices to become cheaper against other major cities."

● Prospects for holidays taken within Britain are excellent, according to Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board. With the number of overseas visitors likely to be up by nearly a third from areas like North America and the Far East, bookings in some areas of Britain are already up as much as 30 per cent, he added. London is likely to benefit most from the influx.

Holiday-taking abroad by Britons has levelled off, Mr Montague claimed.

CAPITAL CITY COSTS

Ac'dation, eating out	Shopping	Services	Transport	Entertainment	Overall
New York	Tokyo	New York	Tokyo	Tokyo	New York
Stockholm	Toronto	Sydney	New York	New York	Tokyo
Tokyo	Sydney	Tokyo	Stockholm	Toronto	Stockholm
Toronto	Brussels	Stockholm	Zurich	Sydney	Toronto
Zurich	Copenhagen	Zurich	Toronto	London	Sydney
Sydney	Stockholm	Frankfurt	Paris	Zurich	Zurich
Frankfurt	Paris	Toronto	Sydney	Stockholm	Copenhagen
London	NewYork	Brussels	Frankfurt	Paris	Brussels
Copenhagen	Amsterdam	Paris	Rome	Rome	London
Amsterdam	Zurich	Amsterdam	Copenhagen	Amsterdam	Paris
Rome	London	Copenhagen	Brussels	Frankfurt	Amsterdam
Brussels	Madrid	Madrid	Amsterdam	Brussels	Frankfurt
Paris	Rome	London	Madrid	Copenhagen	Rome
Madrid	Frankfurt	Rome	London	Madrid	Madrid

Source: Staniland Hall Associates.

Prince sees tank display

Saudi Visitor: Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia inspecting members of the Royal Armoured Corps at Lulworth Camp, Dorset. He saw two Challenger tanks fire live rounds to destroy old tank targets on the Lulworth ranges. He also visited the tank training area at Gallows Hill, near Bovington Camp, where Lawrence of Arabia once served

Lawson is pressed to put 20p on cigarettes

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is believed by his ministerial colleagues to be considering an increase well above the rate of inflation in the duty on tobacco for his first Budget next month.

Health ministers are pressing for an increase of up to 20p on a packet of cigarettes, in the belief that their anti-smoking drive can be best pursued by hitting smokers through their pockets.

Such an approach, they believe, has become necessary because of what they see as the limited effectiveness of the government health warning on cigarette packets and in advertisments and the increasing ingenuity of tobacco companies in distracting attention from the warning.

A current series of advertisements for Winston cigarettes is cited by ministers as an example of the way that companies are making a mockery of their intentions.

The Chancellor is believed by his colleagues to be attracted to the idea because of a recent EEC ruling which has declared that taxes on wine in Britain are too high when compared with those on beer.

To bring Britain into line, he may have to increase beer duty sharply, or to reduce wine duty.

He is being pressed to raise the beer duty in line with inflation and to make a good a cut in wine duty by increasing the tobacco duty.

To raise the cigarette duty in line with inflation on March 13 would mean an increase of 3.5p a packet, the Treasury said last month. That would bring in the Government about £120m.

But ministers expect something far more ambitious, despite an expensive "Enough is enough" campaign by the tobacco companies.

Smoking has declined considerably in Britain in recent years. According to figures released by the department of Health and Social Security, about 125,000 million cigarettes were smoked in 1979, and 99,000 million last year, a 20 per cent drop.

In 1978, duty plus value-added tax on a packet of cigarettes ammounted to 70 per cent of the retail price; today it is about 74 per cent.

Tobacco-related diseases, such as heart disease, lung cancer, bronchitis and emphysema, cost the National Health Service about £150m a year.

MPs' revolt on body searches fails

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

THE government fought off a revolt by backbenchers yesterday over limitations on intimate body searches in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Labour voted with the Government supporters to defeat by 11 votes to 4 during the Bill's committee stage an attempt by Conservative rebels to enable searches to be made of the body orifices, for evidence durind an investigation.

The rebels attacked the Bill as it stands for undermining the fight against crime. But the Bill will allow intimate searches of a person for articles which could be used to cause injury while he or she is in custody.

Mr. Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds, quoted during the committee stage of the Bill yesterday from a random sample of provincial police forces in 1982 and 1983 which revealed that among more than 100 items recovered from body orifices were drugs, £200 in notes, explosives and a detonator. A radio transmitter concealed in a person's anus relayed an interview conducted by Thames Valley Police to an accomplice.

Mr Warren Hawksley, Conservative MP for the Wrekin told the committee that if the Bill was passed as it stood it would be a charter for drug pedlars. He had been told that 200 gm of heroine with a street value of £20,000 could be concealed in the vagina.

Mr Roger Sims, Conservative MP for Chislehurst, said that the Bill would tell the criminal world there was a very simple method of concealing evidence without the police having power to prevent it.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, who argued against changing the Bills provisions on intimate searches promised, however, to look again at its wording to see if it covered micro detonators. He added that if a drug concealed was a dangerous one it might fall within the scope of the Bill as drafted.

The Bill will allow intimate searches for weapons although the British Medical Association believes that such searches should always be carried out by a qualified doctor.

Opposition attempts to force through an amendment to that effect yesterday failed. The Bill allows a police officer of the same sex to conduct a search if authorized by a superintendent who thinks a search by a doctor is not practicable.

Alert over funeral for IRA gunmen

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A security alert will be mounted today to prevent Provisional IRA from staging paramilitary funerals for two gunmen shot dead in an undercover SAS operation.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary wants to stop the provisionals achieving a propaganda victory by parading with masked men in the staunchly nationalist village of Dunloy in co Antrim where Henry Hogan, aged 21 and Declan Martin, aged 18, died.

The funeral last year of a Provisional IRA gunman, at which masked men fired volleys over the coffin, brought protests from "loyalist" politicians who yesterday were urging the police to take action to prevent a similar scene today.

With the village already tense the funerals could turn into an angry and bitter confrontation between youths and the security forces.

Last year police moved in on a funeral in north Belfast to remove a beret and gloves from the coffin of an Irish National Liberation Army volunteer; there were scuffles between mourners and the security forces as the coffin was carried from the dead man's home.

Mr Hogan's brother, Michael, has been given compassionate leave from Portlaoise prison in the republic to attend the funeral. He is serving a sentence for armed robbery, possession of firearms and membership of the Provisional IRA.

This week's issue of *Republican News*, a provisional IRA newspaper, said that Henry Hogan had carried out a "number of successful operations in north Antrim" since joining the organization three years ago after the family's return from Devon to live in the province.

Meanwhile members of the Rev Ian Paisley's Free Presbyterian Church are to be advised by ministers on Sunday on how to defend themselves against terrorism.

● Sergeant Paul Oram, the British soldier killed in operation at Dunloy is expected to be buried with full military honours next week in his home town of Gomersal, near Dewsbury, West Yorkshire (Alan Hamilton writes).

Arrangements were being discussed yesterday between his family and Army headquarters in Northern Ireland, which is preparing to fly his body home. Sgt Oram was a member of an undercover squad which was ambushed. A second British soldier is critically ill.

Greenham fence cutting charges

Sue Hodgkinson, of Derby, and Diana Scale of Greenham Common, appeared before Newbury magistrates yesterday charged with cutting the airfield's security fence after being arrested inside the base early yesterday morning. Both were remanded for a week.

Ms Chris Drake, a bystander, said that when the women were inside the base an American ordered them to lie facedown. When they refused she heard what sounded like two shots. A spokesman at the base yesterday denied any shots were fired.

Three charged with attack

Three men were charged yesterday with robbing and inflicting grievious bodily harm on a London newsagent Mr Harry Tipple and his wife, Cicely, who were attacked in their Peckham home on February 14.

Charles Bradford, aged 24, of Glengall Road Camberwell his brother Terence Bradford aged 23, of Carridale House St Leonard's Road, Poplar and Edward Mitchell aged 28 of Primrose House Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, will appear before Tower Bridge Magistrates today

Nuclear dump ban extended

A two-year ban on the dumping of low-level radioactive waste was extended by six months yesterday. Contaminated articles will have to be stored until August 1985.

The decision was taken by the London Dumping Convention, which is awaiting scientific studies on the effects of dumping nuclear waste in the sea.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29, Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2 75, Canaries Pes 150, Cyprus 860 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50, Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7 00, Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p, Italy L 2200, Luxembourg Lf 36, Madeira Esc 125, Morocco Dir 8 00; Norway Kr 7 50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125, Singapore $5.80, Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00, Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1 75, Yugoslavia Din 100

Scots angry at salmon slaughter

By Ronald Faux

Guardians of the Scottish salmon are protesting angrily at the "scandalous" slaughter inflicted by fishermen south of the border on salmon returning to the Tweed.

Details of the latest catch returns from the Northumberland drift net salmon fishing have disclosed that 70,000 salmon were caught last summer using monofilament drift nets. The Scots calculate that 94 per cent of the fish were returning to Scottish east coast rivers.

Mr William Thomson, chairman of the River Tweed Commissioners, said yesterday: "It is quite scandalous that the Government continues to turn a blind eye to this slaughter of returning Scottish salmon at a time when there is mounting concern over diminishing stocks."

Unlike river boards in England, which are supported by local ratepayers, the Tweed and other Scottish rivers have to finance bailiff forces and improvement without government assistance. The income to manage the rivers, the livelihood of traditional rivermouth netsmen and the return from tourists who pay for a day's fishing, are all feared to be at stake.

Mr Thomson said: "It is galling that English nets can intercept salmon only a few miles from our rivermouth, using these deadly drift netting techniques which were outlawed in Scotland years ago, and still contribute absolutely nothing to the management costs of the parent river".

Councils to boycott job training plans

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Metropolitan authorities of all political persuasions agreed overwhelmingly yesterday to boycott the Government's plans to update vocational training by taking 25 per cent of further education funds away from the education service and putting it into the hands of the Manpower Services Commission.

The education committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities (AMA), which met in special session in London, resolved not to get involved in the implementation of the White Paper, *Training for Jobs*, which was published on February 1. All member councils will be advised that no councillor, officer, college principal or governor should talk to the commission or cental government about putting the plan into effect.

The resolution was approved by 20 votes to two.

● A number of universities and polytechnics will have to close or whole departments will have to shut down if higher education cuts suggested by the Government are implemented, Labour Party spokesmen on education said yesterday.

● Devon county council yesterday abandoned its plans to cut 204 primary school teachers in the face of a huge revolt by parents, and resolved to staff schools on the same scalse as before.

Newspaper technology study

By Our Labour Reporter

Leaders of the National Graphical Association (NGA) announced yesterday its involvement in a "work study" of its members on five provincial newspapers.

The survey is being undertaken jointly with the Newspaper Society, the employers' body, and will seek to establish the source of material printed in the newspapers.

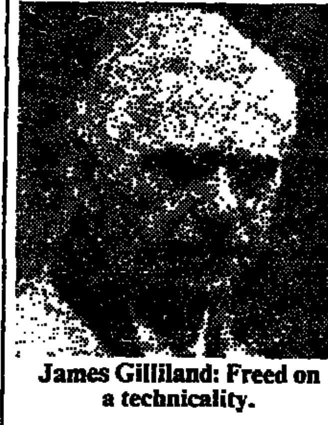
The study will have considerable implications on the society's intention of promoting the introduction of new technology on the 1,100 titles it represents.

The aim of the study is to establish how much copy is originated from outside each office which would be keyed-in by NGA members.

The Newspaper Society has given a warning, as part of its "Project Breakthrough", that if a new technology agreement is not signed by the end of this year, its members will feel free to introduce processes without the cooperation of the union.

The five offices involved will be Bradford and District Newspapers, Bristol United Press, Celtic Press (Merthyr Tydfil), Cumbrian Newspapers (Carlisle) and the *Hartlepool Mail*. The titles range from a large metropolitan daily to weeklies.

$15m fraud case fails



James Gilliland: Freed on a technicality.

James Gilliland, who was charged with a $15m deception was allowed to walk free from a London extradition court yesterday because of a legal technicality in the wording of the charges. Mr Gilliland, aged 53, director of an United States shipbuilding company, was alleged to have taken millions of dollars in bribes from a subcontractor to whom he guaranteed huge orders. The charges alleged that he had defrauded the US government – through the US maritieme administration (Marad) but there was no evidence to show that the money originated from Marad.

BBC awaits Lords ruling on Dimbleby

By Michael Horsnell

BBC executives held talks yesterday over Mr David Dimbleby's role in its Bidget Day programme on March 13 as a result of the Labour Party national executive's decision to recommend that party members and unions not to speak to him.

Party leaders have decided to refuse to be interviewed by Mr Dimbleby. The decision was made because of a dispute with the National Union of Journalists over his decision to move the printing of his west London newspapers to the non-union T. Bailey Forman plant in Nottingham. That move led to a strike by journalists at his newspapers.

A House of Lords judgment is expected soon on an NUJ appeal against a ruling that the strike was unlawful.

Mr Dimbleby, a freelance journalist, has presented the programme for eight years. It is believed that BBC current affairs executives wish to stand by him and that a fomula may be found whereby Labour Party leaders may be prepared to appear on a programme presented by Mr Dimbleby as long as he does not interview them.

Mr Eric Heffer, the Labour Party chairman, said yesterday that the decision by the national executive, which came after a request for action by Mr Ken Ashton, the NUJ general secretary, meant that party members should not take part in programmes with Mr Dimbleby while the dispute continues.

On the BBC Radio Four programme *The World At One*, he said: "I am sure we will be putting our voice forward on every programme that Mr Dimbleby is not participating in. The voice of the Labour Party will be there."

Dismissal 'fair'

An industrial tribunal in Chelsea, ruled yesterday that the Post Office had not been unfair in dismissing Mr William Willoughby, a postman and union branch chairman, of Streatham, south London, after he allegedly called an unauthorized union meeting at a sorting office.

Teenager describes fight for survival after helicopter crash in sea

A teenager described yesterday how she helped to save Howard Goddard, aged 11, a fellow survivor of the Isles of Scilly helicopter disaster which claimed 20 lives last July.

Speaking in a barely audible whisper, Ellen Haslow, aged 16, recounted the minutes when she and five others struggled for survival in the sea off St Mary's. Two Isles of Scilly councillors and the two pilots of th British Airways Oscar November, were among the six survivors.

Mr Derrick Pepperell, the West Cornwall coroner, resuming yesterday's inquest into the 20 deaths, guided Miss Hanslow through her evidence.

The coroner said that Howard Goddard, aged 12, was in difficulty because he could not swim very well. Miss Hanslow said: "I swam to him and he hung on to me for a while. I got hold of a bag and managed to hold on to that."

Earlier, Miss Hanslow of Oakthorpe, Leicestershire, whose parents, John and Marie, died in the crash, said that she was sitting about three seats back on the left of the helicopter.

She said that the helicopter wa shrouded in fog. Before take-off, she said she had been given no instructions by the steward on what to do in the event of the helicopter coming down.

They were all asked to put on seatbelts and this was checked by the steward. She said that she heard the steward tell someone that the aircraft was flying at about 100ft.

She said: "I think I looked out of the window. I could see the surface of the sea. I thought it was a bit low but I was not frightened." There was no warning before the helicopter hit the sea and no one had said anything, she said.

"I felt the helicopter hit the wate. I still had by seatbelt on. The water came in from the front of the aircraft. I managed to undo the seatbelt and we then ended up standing on the roof because it was upside down, she said.

She "shot out" through a hole inthe aircraft. "When I got to the surface there was thick fog. I could see about two metres."

She said she could see two of the other survivors, councillors Mrs Megan Smith and Mrs Lucille Langley-Williams, inthe water. She then spotted Howard Goddard. She described how she swam over to him.

She said that the boy hung on to her for a while, and that she managed to get hold of a bag and hold on to that. She continued: "I heard someone shouting and it was the two pilots. The six of us ended up more or less together in two groups of three." She was with Captain Lawlor, and Howard Goddard before being rescued.

Earlier, Mr Robert Matthews, a senior inspector of the accident investigation branch of the Department of Transport, said that he believed the accident prevented any possibility of a distress signal being sent out.

The 20 who died were: Mr Ronald Goddard, aged 49, an insurance assessor, his wife, Ida, aged 47, and their children, David, aged 15, and Clare, aged 13, of Ickleton, Cambridgeshire; Mr David Fuller, aged 43, an orthopaedic surgeon, his wife Jean, aged 43, a doctor, and their three children Rachel, aged 15, Simon, aged 13, and Alison, aged 11, from Headington, Oxfordshire; Mr David Nye, aged 36, a journalist and his wife Susan, aged 37, and their three children, Sophie, aged 10, Susannah, aged nine, and Kyrstyan, aged six, of Newick, Sussex; Mr John Hanslow, aged 46, a colliery worker, and his wife Marie, aged 46, from Oakthorpe, Leicestershire; Mrs Ena Curson, aged 76, from Wisbech, Cambridgeshire; Dr Patricia Evans, aged 53, a consultant physician, from Essex; Mr Michael Sturgeon, aged 47, of Harrow Weald, Middlesex; and Mr Robin Lander, aged 22, a British Airways cabin attendant, of Penzance, Cornwall.



Miss Hanslow arriving at the Guildhall, Penzance, for yesterday's inquest which was also attended by Mrs Langley-Williams (top), Captain Charleton (centre) and Captain Lawlor, who were among the six survivors.

'No right' for patients to be told every risk

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Doctors are not obliged to inform patients of every single risk that an operation carries, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

Ina test judgment on a patient's right to information before consenting to surgery, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said that patients had a right to a real choice and to have the alternatives placed fairly before them.

Doctors should not play God, he said. The law could not stand idly by if, in an excess of paternalism they denied patients such a choice, he said.

He ruled, however, that a surgeon who failed to inform a patient that an operation carried a small risk of damage to the spinal chord did not act negligently.

With two other judges he dismissed an appeal by Mrs Amy Sidaway, aged 73, who alleged negligence by the Bethlem Royal and Maudsley hospitals in south-east London in not warning her of the 1 per cent risk involved.

Mrs Sidaway, of East Dulwich, south London, sued the hospitals over the operation in 1974 in which her spinal chord was damaged. Negligence was denied.

She was left with severe impairment of movement on her right side and some ill effects on her left, and would have been awarded £67,000 agreed damages had she established liability.

Sir John said that a doctor fulfilled his duty to inform a patient if he acts in accordance with a practice rightly accepted and proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men.

In appropriate cases, however, a judge would be entitled to reject a unanimous medical view if satisfied that it was manifestly wrong

Law Report, page 24

'Other man' query over death of art student

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Counsel for the defence in the Susan Renhard murder trial yesterday referred the jury to the parable of the Good Samaritan.

In his final speech at Nottingham crown court, Mr Martin Thomas, QC, said that the Samaritan in this case was Mr Frederick Green, who found the body and summoned assistance. "But was he the second person to see the body or the third?" Mr Thomas asked the jury.

Mr Norman Smith, aged 18, the student accused of Miss Renhard's murder in a Peak District beauty spot, says that he left her still breathing. Mr Thomas asked the jury to consider the posibility that another person then came along and strangled her.

He mentioned Mr Takafuna Tanaka, aged 35, a Japanese courier who was in the vicinity at the time. Mr Thomas said that because both prosecution and defence considered Mr Tanaka an unreliable and untruthful witness he was not able to be called to give evidence.

Mr Thomas told the jury: "I am not prosecuting counsel against Mr Tanaka. I am not trying to present a case against him. You have been told that he was arrested and has been interviewed."

He added: "I accept there was no forensic evidence to connect him. But beyond that I do not accept anything."

Mr Smith, of Sunnyside Villas, Castleton, Derbyshire, pleads not guilty to murdering Miss Renhard, aged 21, an art student for West Hagley, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, on June 27, last year.

Mr Douglas Draycott QC, for the prosecution, described the theory of another man being involved as "rubbish".

The case continues today when the jury will retire.

Police study drink-drive case ruling

Magistrates at Basingstoke, in Hampshire, yesterday dismissed a drink-driving charge against a musician after it was alleged that he had used a large quantity of spirit of campho on his lips and in his mouth to help him to play his trombone properly and that had an increased the reading of an intoximeter machine.

A Hampshire police spokesman said after the case: "The assistant chief constable, Mr Richard Stobart, has said that in circumstances such as these our first step is to examine the implications of the decision".

The court had heard that the musician Mr Robert Todd, of Mead Lane, Farnham, Surrey, had been playing for a band at Tidworth near Andover, where he had drunk four or five cans of lager. He had then fallen asleep while driving home and had been involved in an accident. Tests had showed that his body contained nearly three times the permitted amount

Dr Cristopher Chatfield, director of the Chatfield Applied Research Laboratories said he concluded after test that the drink consumed by Mr Todd "would nto have enabled him to reach the legal limit." Mr Todd, who pleaded not guilty, said the spirit deadened the lips, allowing him to play the trombone properly.

Doctors to test computer link

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Department of Health is planning to provide computer terminals for 3,000 general practitioners to improve the reporting of adverse reactions to drugs and allow other experiments in new technology.

The one-year experimental project will initially speed up the reporting of side-effects, the Department of Health said yesterday. At present, doctors send in yellow cards when side-effects are noticed, and their use has contributed to the withdrawal of about five drugs over the past two years.

About 13,000 yellow cards are sent in every year and the deparment's medicines division hopes the terminals will increase the number of reports to about 20,000 a year.

The computers will also be used for other experiments, including providing doctors with information from the Prescription Pricing Authority on the number and cost of drugs they prescribe, after evidence that GPs can be persuaded to cut the cost of their prescribing if they have such information.

Computers can also be used to call in patients for routine procedures such as cervical smears or vaccinations, and can ease other administrative work.

Wife in fake death plot, murder trial told

A woman was involved in a "chilling" plot to fake her husband's death so that the couple could get £76,000 insurance money, a jury was told at Manchester Crown Court yesterday.

Mrs Valerie Mason, aged 22, lured an insurance salesman to their home in Ashton-in-Makenfield, Lancashire, on the pretext of wanting to talk about insurance. Mr Christopher Rose, QC, for the prosecution, said. There, her husband beat hin to death with a sash window weight.

Mrs Mason, the mother of two children, denies murdering David Moore.

Mr Rose said Mr Moore was chosen as the victim because he bore some resemblance to Mr Mason, who has already pleaded guilty to murder.

The case continues today.

Mustique bound: The Duke and Duchess of Kent leaving Heathrow Airport yesterday for a holiday on the Caribbean island of Mustique. The Princess was wearing leather trousers and boots. Princess Margaret and her son Viscount Linley are already on holiday on the island.

Getty bid for Wilton art refused

By Frances Gibb

The Lord of Pembroke has been approached by dealers with a view to selling art treasures from his magnificent collection at Wilton House, Salisbury, to the Getty Museum in Malibu, California.

The approach to the owner of one of the top-ranking British collections is the latest to be prompted by the enormous spending power of the Getty Museum.

Lord Pembroke said yesterday that dealers had "put out feelers" to him, among others, to see if he was interested in selling a number of the masterpieces at Wilton. He emphasized that he was not prepared to sell.

One of the most important works at Wilton is "The Card Player", a painting by Lucas van Leyden-(1494-1533), estimated to be worth about £3m.

The offer will increase pressure on the Government to take action to protect the owners of historic homes against the Getty spending power.

It coincides with the temporary stopping yesterday by the Minister for the Arts, Lord Gowrie, of an export licence for a Rubens drawing, "A Man in a Korean Costume", bought by Getty for £327,600. British museums have three months to try to match that price.

The Getty Museum has to spend £1m a week to retain its charitable status.

Low rates rises for London

Two London rates announced yesterday confirm that this year's average increases will be low. Conservative Westminster is to add only 1 per cent to its domestic ratepayers' bills and Camden, which is Labour, is to increase household bills by just over 7 pe cent. Both have benefited from the 7.5 per cent cut in the Greaer London Council's rate.

Lady Porter, the leader of Westminster council, said the GLC's rates cut could have been bigger if it had not decided to increase its spending by £68m.

Bodies of couple found on beach

A couple whose bodies were washed up on a beach at Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, were named yesterday as Mr Patrick Garvey, aged 55, and his wife Emily, aged 53, who lived at Golden Avenue, near the beach.

The police were investigating a theory that Mr Garvey may have drowned trying to pull his wife from the sea. Neighbours said she had recently had hospital treatment for depression.

Friend 'murdered couple'

A Hell's Angel accused of the murders of a young couple, claimed yesterday that they were killed while he was visiting his parents. Michael Bardell told a jury at Northampton Crown Court that his friend, Stephen Parkinson, killed them after borrowing his car and dropping him off at his parents' home. "When he picked me up again he told me he had killed them", he said. "I was at my parents' home."

Mr Bardell, aged 32, and Mr Parkinson, aged 23, both of Northampton, have denied murdering David Cox, aged 23, and his girlfriend Debbie Fallon, aged 19, whose bodies were found in Salcey Forest near Northampton, last spring.

They have also pleaded not guilty to conspiring to murder another Hell's Angel, Mr Ian Turner.

The trial continues today.

Combating kerb crawling

Police turn to 1361 Act for help

By Richard Dowden

A 600-year-old Act appears to be working well as a legal device to deter kerb crawling in several large cities.

The Justice of the Peace Act, 1361, contains a clause which was designed to protect Flemish merchants as they plied their trade around England. However, after the Nottinghamshire Constabulary first successfully used the Act, several other forces have resorted to it to discourage men from driving around red light areas in search of prostitutes.

Men convicted under the Act are bound over for a period of one or two years in sums of between £100 and £200. However, its deterrent effect lies in the fact that the men's names are published.

So far there have been no acquittals under the terms of the Act and last Friday Mr Justice Caulfield upheld its use when he rejected an appeal in the High Court.

Supt Keith Newman, of Nottinghamshire Police, said yesterday that he was more than happy with the Act. So far 41 people have been convicted under its terms in Nottingham and nine other cases are pending.

It has also been used in Norwich where 20 men were bound over, and Luton where it was used for the first time on Wednesday. In Plymouth, according to Supt Nicholas Crowhurst, simply the threat of its use has reduced kerb crawling.

But the Criminal Law revision Committee of the Home Office has been asked by Mr David Mellor, the Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, to bring forward its report on kerb crawling to this autumn in advance of its general report on prostitution due to be published this spring.

The Home Office is also concerned that if a prostitute is committing a criminal offence by soliciting, the client should be held equally responsible for creating a nuisance on the streets.

In December, 1982, the committee's working paper proposed that to accost a woman from a car for sexual purposes so as to cause her fear or annoyance should be a specific offence. It is not thought, however, that new legislation on prostitution will be in force until 1985.

In almost all cases where kerb crawlers have been arrested, prostitutes have been arrested at the same time for loitering.

Senior police officers speak of a "general crackdown on prostitution" and "cleaning up" certain areas. Interim figures in several areas confirm this.

Changes for Crown Agents to go private

PRIVATIZATION

Proposals for the reorganizaion of the Board of Crown Agents has been broadly accepted by the Government with a view to their privatization after the position has been carefully considered Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, said in a statement to the Commons. The timing and method of Privatization would be settled later.

Mr Raison said: Last summer the Government of Brunei terminated its contract with the Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations for the management of its investments. This resulted in significant loss of income to the Crown Agents, amounting to up to £4m in a full year, so that action became necessary to enable them to meet their financial duties under the Crown Agengts Acts 1979.

The Board of Crown Agents accordingly submitted to Government proposals for reorganization an improvement of the efficiency of the business, designed to enable them to achieve financial viability not later than 1986.

These proposals inculded the reduction of staff from about 1,200 to under 900, changes in terms of service to enable them to provide services competitively, and the sale of their principal offices at 4 Millbank, which would make possible the reduction of the commencing capital debt from its current level of £19.8m to £9m.

The Government has taken the opportunity to undertake a thorough review of the future of the Crown Agents and the need for their continued existence in their present form. In undertaking this, we have had regard to the Government's policy to reduce the size of the public sector, to the services which the Crown Agents provide for developing countries and to their value to Britain's own interests.

On the basis of this review I expect Crown Agents to be fully profitable by not later than 1986.

After very careful consderation of this and other factors and of the representations made to me, the Government has decided broadly to endorse the proposals of the Board of Crown Agents for their reorganisation with a view to their privatisation in due course. The timing and method of privatisation will be settled later. Pending the necessary legislation, the board will set in train appropriate measures of internal reorganisation in order to facilitate privatisation.

To facilitate the financing of this reorganisation, it is the Government's intention to waive in full under Section 17(4) of the Crown Agents Act 1979 the interest due on the commencing capital debt in 1984 and to seek parliamentary approval under Section 17(10) for any waiver necessary in 1985 and 1986.

I believe that this decision will enable the Crown Agents, under their vigorous Chairman, Mr Peter Graham, to continue to serve successfully both Britain and the developing world.

Mr George Robertson, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs: The minister and this Government have rightly complemented the Crown Agents on their invaluable role and it would therefore be disgraceful if the ideological beliefs of the Treasury were allowed to wipe out the strategy.

This statement is welcome in as much, and only in as much, as it accepts the Crown Agents reorganization plan and the rescheduling of the immediate debt problems.

However, the threat of quite unnecessary and damaging privatization is still to hang over the heads of the agents. Privatization, which would make no sense at all in this area and which would enormously damage the viability and independence of the Crown Agents, is still there as a prospect in the indefinable future.

As long as it goes on it will go on robbing the Crown Agents of the talent inside their organization that they have been losing in this period of uncertainty since last September.

What consultations have the Government had with the client countries of the Crown Agents, since it is their view and their confidence which determines the Agents' value?

What consultations have been made with the staff of the Crown Agents in view of the substantial period of uncertainty they have suffered? What is the position of the pensions office in East Kilbride? *The Financial Times* today says it is to be subsumed within a Whitehall department.

Regarding the sale of 4 Millbank, what studies have been made of the state of the London property market which suggests this would be the best time to sell a valuable property in the public interest?

Mr Raison: On privatization, we want to examine the position carefully initially to find ways of privatizing at any rate parts, and probably the whole, of the Crown Agents. The chairman is happy with the future we have put forward.

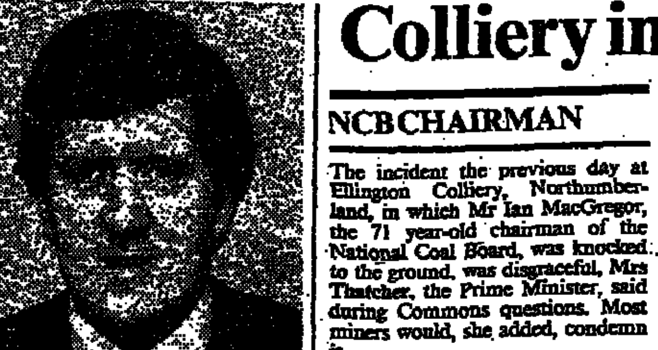
We have not had formal consultations with client countries, but we have had discussions with people in different parts of the world about the role of the Crown Agents and I acknowledge the respect in which they are held.

I have seen representatives of the Crown Agents' trade unions in London and East Kilbride and hope to meet then again to discuss the implications of the decision on their future.

We have no plans at present to subsume the office at East Kilbride but we shall have to look at it to see what is the best way of handling it.

Regarding the sale of 4 Millbank, the Crown Agents believe they can achieve a considerable capital for this and I endorse their belief.

Sir Bernard Braine (Castle Point, C) said the interim statement left the



Robertson: Unnecessary and damaging threat

Crown Agents and their clients in some doubt and uncertainty, which was not in the natiional interest. There were 4,000 British companies, many quite small, which were largely dependent on the agents.

Mr Raison replied that as the agents moved towards privatization it should be possible to look at each stage and so maintain their position.

He hoped the agents could move forward and implement reorganization, then consider the best way to move to privatization without throwing away the advantages of the existance of the agents.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Mossley Hill, L): Many people will see this as poison chalice containing praise for the agents and at the same time the seeds of their own destruction. This decision is purely a dogmatic one taken for doctrinaire reasons.

Mr Raison: It will be seen as a sensible development plan for the future and one capable of making the best use of the skills and resouces at present embodied in the Crown agents.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C) said there was abundant evidence not only that privatization was long overdue but that the Crown Agents over a period of years had let the Crown down.

Mr Raison: There have been particular difficulties in Brunei. The difficulty reported today in the press is simply due to a misunderstanding. I hope that can resolved. I have no doubt that our decision to reorganize with a view to privatization is right and I hope that can be brought about before long.

Colliery incident condemned as disgraceful

NCB CHAIRMAN

The incident the previous day at Ellington Colliery, Northumberland, in which Mr Ian MacGregor, the 71 year-old chairman of the National Coal Board, was knocked to the ground, was disgraceful, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions. Most miners would, she added, condemn it.

Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, later said he had spoken to Mr MacGregor and the Northumberland police. The Prime Minister and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, were trying to make mischief out of a deeply regrettable accident.

The incident was referred to by **Mr Alan Beith** (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L), in whose constituency the colliery is situated. He said it caused deep concern to many of his constiuents, including large numbers of miners who shared the deep sense of frustration of other miners in the Northumberland coalfield because of closures but who did not see that violence and disorder was the answer.

Did Mrs Thatcher also deplore the comments of the area secretary, unlike those of the lodge officals? A badly organized protest was allowed by the area organiser to get out of hand.

Mrs Thatcher: I join with him in condemning the incident; it was a disgraceful incident and most miners will condemn it. I share his repulsion. I am sorry Mr Kinnock chose not to condemn it in his choice of questions earlier.

Mr John Ryman (Blyth Valley, Lab): Could the Prime Minister reconsider her complacent attitude towards jobs and appreciate that as a result of the ferocious campaign by the NCB, dozens of pits in the North East are threatened with redundancies and closure?

The Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) and Mr MacGregor have flatly refused to listen to representatons on behalf of the men.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government's record on putting investment into the coal industry is outstanding and exceeds the *Plan for Coal*. The Government has more than honoured its promise. It demonstrates that the Government and Mr MacGregor have faith in the future of the coal industry.

● Later, on a point of order, **Mr Kinnock** said that within minutes of being told of the incident in Northumberland yesterday he spoke to Mr MacGregor's office to inquire about his welfare.

I shared the concern of everybody (he said). I spoke to Mr MacGregor personally this morning. I have checked the details of the incident with the Northumberland police and I have come to the conclusion this was a deeply regrettable accident.

Both the Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) and now the Prime Minister are simply trying to make mischief out of what was a regrettable accident, and not one worthy of use by senior members of the Government.

Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP, then rose on a point of order and said it was an intolerable abuse of points of order for the Leader of the Opposition to be allowed to make a statement.

Amid loud heckling from both Labour and Conservative benches, Dr Owen said the Leader of the House (Mr John Biffen) refused to make a statement on the Northumberland incident yesterday and the letter yesterday by the Minister of State, Home Office (Mr Douglas Hurd) did not contain any of what was stated by Mr Brittan and Mrs Thatcher.

There had been no opportunity to raise the issue in the House.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) replied that these were questions on which he could not rule.

Following further attempts by Dr Owen to make his point of order heard above continuous interruptions, **The Speaker** said: Had I anticipated what Mr Kinnock was going to say perhaps I should not have allowed it. We ought not to have after question time an extension of question time.

Miss Maynard not IRA supporter

TERRORISM

Miss Joan Maynard (Sheffield, Brightside), asserted in the Commons that she was not a supporter of the IRA. But when she said she was not in favour of terrorism "on either side", Conservative MPs cried "shame" and "Oh."

Miss Maynard was reacting to a comment by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who said during questions on Ulster that remarks she had made about the IRA were unhelpful.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) had asked Mr Prior to reject Miss Maynard's views.

Miss Maynard: In view of that accusation, there was misrepresentation. I do not know if he knows that. In one newspaper there was at least an untrue statement.

I repeat what I have said before, that I am not in favour of violence here or anywhere else. I have certainly never been and am not now a supporter of the IRA of any other warring groups in that unhappy country.

Mr Prior: I hope, in that case, that she will go one step further and say she is not in favour of terrorism and does not believe they are freedom fighters.

Miss Maynard: I am not in favour of terrorism but I am not in favour of it on either side.

The Prime Minister will not be visiting Chesterfield, but took the opportunity of a request that she should do so, to condemn Mr Neil Kinnock's speech there on Monday as thoroughly irresponsible, and to commend a comment by Mr John Taylor (Strangford, OUP) that the people of Northern Ireland saw the murder of a British Army sergeant there as the act of terrorists and not of freedom fighters.

Mr John Heddle (Mid Staffordshire, C), who had asked if Mrs Thatcher would visit Chesterfield, referred to Mr Kinnock's speech calling for abandonment of Britain's nuclear defences (Labour cheers and Conservative protests).

He went on: On that same day, one of Mr Benn's even closer parliamentary friends said that the IRA were not terrorists. The moderate majority in Chesterfield would rather be governed by a party dedicated to peace through strength

Mrs Thatcher: I saw the speech. Mr Kinnock's comments were thoroughly irresponsible and even further to the left than the manifesto at the last election.

Government policy on defence is the only sure and effective defence for this country and the only guarantee for peace with freedom and justice.

Mr Taylor: Will the Prime Minister assure the people of Northern Ireland that she considers those responsible for the murder of a British Army sergeant two days ago to be terrorists and not freedom fighters? (Cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I warmly endorse what he says and thank him for it.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private Member's motion on democratic rights and living standards of Londoners. **Lords** (11): Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) (No 2) Bill, committee.

The winding up of an historical curiosity

PENSIONS

The Pensions Commutation Bill, which dissolves the Pensions Commutation Board and transfers to the Secretary of State for Defence its work of dealing with applications to commute some types of pensions into lump sum payments, was read a second time in the Commons and passed its remaining stages.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, moving the second reading, said almost all applications came from retired officers of the armed forces, though some civilians receiving pensions given for loss of office before 1972 were also entitled to apply.

When the board was established in 1869, commutation decisions were much more difficult and potentially more controversial than they were now. In more recent years, with a mass of published information about the likely effects on life expectancy of various medical conditions, much of the board's work had become routine.

The board had become something of a historical curiosity. The Bill was entirely an administrative procedure and did not affect a potential applicant's rights nor the amount of money he was likely to receive.

Applicants for commutation were charged a fee related to the costs of providing the service, and the charges would reduce administrative costs. This would benefit applicants. The Officers' Pension Society had been consulted and had not objected.

The board was dealing with 1,000 applications each year. These involved lump sum payments of about £20m a year. Commutation decisions were taken in accordance with tables drawn up by the Government Actuary. Most applicants received the full amount.

Dr Oonagh McDonald, Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said they accepted that the board had become an anachronism, set up in Victorian times.

Mr Michael Stern (Bristol North West, C) said he welcomed the Bill in the limited terms in which it had been introduced. But he had hoped the opportunity would have been taken to bring the whole scheme out of the 1870s rather than merely the administration of it. This was a shame. The processes by which retired officers applied for commutation of pensions would remain firmly rooted in the 1870s and bear no comparison to the processes by which, under normal commercial and private occupation pension schemes, similar commutations were dealt with.

● The Merchant Shipping Bill passed its remaining stages in the Commons.

New aircraft for Queen's Flight

An announcement will be made shortly on a replacement for the Andovers of the Queen's Flight but there are no plans to replace the Wessex helicopters, the Earl of Avon, a Government spokesman, said in the House of Lords.

When **Lord Boyd-Carpenter** (C) asked what he meant by shortly, the the **Earl of Avon** said the RAF was evaluating two BA 146 series 100 aircraft. The trials were going well and there was little reason to doubt this excellent plane would graduate to use in The Queen's Flight.

Decision on GCHQ is right

PM'S QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister accused Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition of treating national security issues lightly after he had said that in the Commons on the question of GCHQ they were dealing not with the issues of democracy, liberty, efficiency or security but of personal vanity.

Mr Kinnock pointed out during question time that Mrs Thatcher would be seeing the Civil Service unions later in the day about the vexed question of GCHQ, Cheltenham.

This House wants an amicable, just and enduring solution (he said) to the problems of GCHQ. It is possible to get a solution which guarantees civil rights and security because union members there are firmly and irrevocably dedicated both to civil liberties and to security.

Mrs Thatcher: I hear what he said. I believe that the Government decision, announced on January 25, remains the only effective guarantee of our objectives which, I believe, are widely shared.

Mr Kinnock: She is seeing those unions. If she is stubborn in that view, precisely what is the of the further meeting?

She should be preoccupied with the values of democracy and the interests of national security entirely preoccupied with that, clearing her mind of any desire to defend what was initially an ill-advised and thoroughly perverse decision, which cannot enhance security and will not enhance democracy.

Mrs Thatcher: It was well advised and well considered. It follows well-established lines for treating agencies whose principal function is security and intelligence. It is different from others.

It was the right decision. The majority of the people in GCHQ have accepted and that majority increases day by day.

Mr Kinnock: None of that explains the long delays or utterly incompetent way the Government is trying to deal with is.

We are not dealing with the issue of democracy, liberty or efficiency, or security, by issues of personal vanity. (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I note how lightly he chooses to treat issues of national security.

Mr Cranley Onslow (Woking, C): Most MPs and most people take the view that it is the reponsibility of the Governemt to see that the requirements of national security are satisfied and not that of trade unions and not that of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mrs Thatcher: It is a heavy responsibility and the way we have chosen to discharge it is the right one.

Consular help for drivers

Britain's consular staff are doing everything possible to see that lorry drivers from this country who are trapped inthe French lorry blockade are properly looked after, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, stated.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) had asked: Will she bear in mind how we feel the plight of British lorry drivers in France? Will she make a direct personal intervention with President Mitterrand in her best Palmerstonian manner?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Raymond Whitney, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, has been in Paris this morning and has made vigorous representations to the French Government about the plight of our lorry drivers.

Our consular staff in the worst area has been increased by people going there from Paris. They are lendig money to lorry drivers to enable them to purchase the things that they need.

Most lorry drivers wish to stay with their lorries, but we have had a request from one group to be repatriated. What we can do about it is being urgently considered.

No rates on farm land

The Government does not intend to reopen the question of rating of agricultural land and buildings, Mrs Thatcher Prime Minister, said during question time, but she spoke of the need for painful adjustments in agriculture.

Sir Peter Mills (West Devon and Torridge, C) had asked Mrs Thatcher to bear in mind the great uncertainty in British agriculture at present, particularly because of the Community and because of the so-called inquiry into the privileges of British agriculture.

Mills: Industry has served country well

Will she explain exactly the position and express her confidence in an industry which has served this country well.

Mrs Thatcher: the Government is determined to reduce the surpluses produce under the CAP. the reason for that is well understood by all farmers throughout the Community. We all recognize that it will cause painful adjustments but people realize that it has to come about.

The Government also believes that people realize the need for support of British agriculture, support which is offered by every western industrial country to its agriculture.

In spite of reports to the contrary, we do not propose to reopen the question of rating of agricultural land and buildings.

Scope for big savings

The extent to which significant savings resulted from the Government's metropolitan reorganization plans depended upon how vigorously they were pursued by the boroughs and districts, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

She had been invited to comment on the report by Coopers and Lybrand, the management consultants hired by the metropolitan counties to analyse the effect of their abolition, that only paltry savings would be achieved.

Mr Stanley Thorne (Preston, Lab) said the report revealed that there would be no net savings but a possible increase on cost of £60m a year.

Mrs Thatcher: I have seen the outline of that report. The fact is that Coopers and Lybrand have identified scope for significant savings.

Absentees from NI Assembly

ULSTER

The Northern Ireland Assembly could not continue indefinitely unless people took part in it, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during Commons questions on Ulster.

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast, East, DUP) had asked if Mr Prior, would welcome the return to the Assembly of four members who had been boycotting it.

Does Mr Prior believe (he asked) that their return or the absence of the rest of their colleagues affects the future of the Assembly?

Mr Prior told him: If I can find any other way of making the work of the Assembly, even in Phase 1, more effective by the greater participation of ministers and so on, I will be only too happy.

As for people returning to it, I shall not be satisfied until everyone is attending the Assembly who was elected to it. That may still be some way off. But meanwhile we have to go on with the assembly as it is, though it cannot continue indefinitely unless people take part.

Mr Prior also said: we believe, and I think it is generally recognized in the country as a whole, that it is far easier to bring down institutions than it is to create them.

Nothing has been put forward in Northern Ireland which in any way comes near the success of the assembly.

Nothing has been put forward in Northern Ireland which in any way comes near the success of the assembly.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab): Are the absentee members still entitled to receive their wages and expenses? And if so, how much is this stupid exercise costing the taxpayer?

Mr Prior: I do not recognise that this is a stupid exercise. I cannot give figures of those who draw salaries and not attend, but we recognise that many of them are doing constituency work and carry out constituency functions.

Mr Robert Maclennan (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP): Earlier he indicated that the assembly could not continue indefinitely without the support of the two major constitutional parties in the north. How long can it continue?

Mr Prior: Not very long unless the constitutional parties do take part. that is why I hope they will do so.

Shorts could be privatized

There were no immediate intentions of privatising Short Brothers, the aircraft manufacturers, Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office, said during Commons questions. But he added that there was no reason, given certain safeguards, that Shorts should not be returned to the private sector.

Rates Bill guillotine next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on GCHQ.

Tuesday: Debate on Welsh affairs.

Wednesday: Timetable motion on Rates Bill. Debate on EEC documents on contracts negotiated away from business premises and food aid. Barclays Bank Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order.

Friday: Private member's motion on the provision of homes.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Cable and Broadcasting Bill, report, first day.

Tuesday: Housing and Building Control Bill, committee, first day.

Wednesday: Debate on foreign affairs and disarmament.

Thursday: Cable and Broadcasting Bill, report, second day.

Fowler reconsiders policy on general managers for NHS

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Service Correspondent

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, appears to be retreating from full implementation of the key recommendation of the Griffiths report, that general managers should be introduced throughout the National Health Service.

Health authorities are to be given between 12 and 18 months to finalize their response to the report and it is also no longer certain that the introduction of managers will be mandatory or even that the job will be full time.

Mr Fowler told the House of Commons select committee on social services recently that he is looking for "maximum flexilbility to suit local circumstances" in introducing the changes.

He is considering whether general managers could be part-time, whether the job could be combined with an existing post in the district management team, whether there should be "a range of different solutions in different areas", and whether even the job title could vary.

Mr Fowler's attitude appears to contrast with that of Mr Roy Griffiths, author of the report, who is director and deputy chairman of Sainsbury's and of the NHS Supervisory Board.

Mr Griffiths said the report was not meant to be prescriptive and there would be a variety of methods for introducing it. But he urged the committee that "the general management functions should not be watered down", and said general managers were "the very heart of the report".

He warned the committee not to "underestimate the load of responsibility that a good general manager will bear". Sir Brian Bailey, another of the report's authors, added that it was not a job that could be done by the chairman of a health authority; "it was not a part-time job".

A senior member of the social services committee said yesterday that Mr Fowler appeared "far less determined than I thought" on the general manager issue.

Farmers grossly overuse pesticides, report claims

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Pesticides to control insects, weeds, and plant diseases are grossly overused, and are not subject to adequate legal safeguards according to a report published yesterday.

The report was prepared by Friends of the Earth for a camaigning group called the Pesticides Action Network, is supported by Oxfam, and the Soil Association. It describes the pesticides safety precautions scheme (PSPS), which is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture under guidance from an independent panel of scientists, as a toothless watchdog.

The report points out that there are no legal limits on the application of pesticides. Vegetables, for example, may receive up to 46 sprays in a season, yet residues in foodstuffs, which constitute a potential health hazard, are not properly monitored.

It adds that even when chemicals are declared unsafe under the safety scheme, there is nothing to stop farmers using them. Most farmers have no training in pesticide use or safety.

The report calls for statutory controls to give legal force to the present voluntary arrangements; a system for monitoring the health effects of pesticides; and greater disclosure of information on potential hazards.

It also wants a ban on the sale of pesticide that has not been cleared by the ministry as effective; a ministry-sponsored programme to reduce pesticide use to the minimum; maximum legal limits of levels of residues in foodstuffs; and regular surveys of the health of farmers and farmworkers.

Sikh claims race bias by golf club

A Sikh claimed yesterday that he was refused membership of a golf club on racial grounds. Mr Pramjit Singh Hothi, aged 40, a postal supervisor, is claiming damages from the Wrekin Golf Club, Shropshire, on the ground of discrimination. He alleges that he is the only applicant to be rejected in the past three years.

Mr Edward Coke, counsel for Mr Hothi, whose case is being funded by the Commission for Racial Equality, told Birmingham Crown Court yesterday: "According to the minutes, from 1981 until today on no other occasion has a ballot been requested and has anyone been blackballed.

The club denies discrimination and the hearing continues today.



Surgical spirit: Witch Hazel, an 11-year-old mare which might have been shot after dislocating a fetlock but for advances in veterinary science (Our Science Correspondent writes).

The horse, above, with its owner, Miss Heather Oliver, of Hertford, has foaled ans is being ridden actively without lameness two and a half years after carbon fibre was implanted to form an artificial ligament.

In a similar operation, a 15-year-old thoroughbred gelding, also with a left hind fetlock dislocation, was treated with carbon fibre implant and six months later shows no sign of lameness, according to an article in *The Veterinary Record*.

The operations were carried out by Mr Barry Edwards and Mr Leslie Vaughan at the Royal Veterinary College field station at North Mymms, Hertfordshire. "The standard of recovery achieved here is encouraging," They said.

Privatized services 'save £1m'

Health authorities are saving nearly £1m a year through privatization of domestic and laundry services in eight health authorities, Mr John Patten, Parliamentary Secretary for Health, said yesterday.

His comments came as health authorities complete their timetables for putting all their domestic, catering and laundry services out to tender between now and 1986.

Visiting Yorkshire Regional Health Authority in Harrogate yesterday, Mr Patten said that the privatization of cleaning services at the new Clarendon Wing in Leeds was producing savings of £45,000 a year.

In Medway, savings of £1m over three years were promised on domestic services, while the privatization of domestic services at Redhill, Maidstone and Beckenham, and of laundry in North Warwickshire, Merton and North West Surrey were producing savings of more than £500,000 a year.

Bomb road may remain closed

The stretch of Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, damaged during the Provisional IRA bombing outside Harrods may be turned into a pedestrian area.

The section has been closed since the explosion last December and Kensington and Chelsea Council is looking at suggestions from traders that it should remain barred to traffic.

Factory revival

The former Janet Reger underwear factory in Wirksworth, Derbyshire, which closed a year ago, is to be reopened by a children's wear manufacturer, Robyn of Derby, creating 60 jobs.

JPs may send more offenders to cells

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The controversial use by magistrates of police cells for people sentenced for drink-driving offences may be extended to other offences including theft and assault.

The Magistrates' Association's sentencing committee is examining the feasibility of using powers under the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1980, to impose sentences of up to four days in police cells for additional offences.

Mr Geoffrey Norman, the association's secretary, said: "The advantage of such sentences is that they are short and yet highly-effective. Offenders are less likely to lose their job than if they went to prison and they do not come into contact with ordinary prison population".

The decision of magistrates at Grays, Essex, to send drink-driving offenders to custody in police cells at Christmas caused cosiderable controversy and some opposition from police.

Some police forces have argued that they do not have the cells available for such offenders. But Mr Norman said the association would also be considering the availability and suitability of police cells throughout England and Wales.

The association believes the decision to impose a sentence of police custody is up to individual benches, but it must take into account local accommodation.

It says however, that such a penalty "has substantial advantages in appropriate cases where no course other than custody is considered appropriate. Being locked up for four days in police custody for the first time may well be sufficient to deter an offender from committing a similar offence".

British Museum reading room 'not under threat'

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The most famous library reading room in the world, the dome-shaped magnet of international scholars in the British Museum, Bloomsbury, will not be threatened immediately by the creation of a new home for the British Library, its chairman, Sir Frederick Dainton, said yesterday.

Academics have rallied to the defence of the room, which was designed in 1857 and is now run by the British Library, in the belief that the new building will be the death of the historic hall.

Last year, Lord Thomas of Swynnerton, head of the Centre for Policy Studies and a trusted adviser to the Prime Minister, produced a pamphlet, *The Case for the Round Reading Room*, which attacked the planned extension next to St Pancras station and defended the facilities of the existing reading room.

Sir Frederick, unveiling the British Library's annual report, yesterday, said that he thought no decision on the future of the reading room could be taken until the end of the century.

The new British Library's building will contain 55 miles of shelving by the end of the decade, Sir Frederick said. It will act as a central headquarters for the library, which owns 163,000 volumes of manuscripts, nearly 1,400,000 cartographic items, and 1,400,000 music scores.

مكبرة من الأصل

Middle East: President at bay ● Militias in control ● Baghdad-Basra road cut

Reagan on defensive as journalists give him rough ride on television

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

In 22 televised press conferences President Reagan has never looked so nervous, uncomfortable, defensive. The questioning bordered on the rude – was he a part-time president, a nominal leader, intellectually lazy, forgetful, providing "leadership by amnesia"?

On Lebanon he ranged through historical justification, refusing to acknowledge defeat of his policy. Even as he spoke American Marines were retreating from Beirut. He said their mission was not over, that they might be sent back, that the naval task force off Lebanon was there to stay.

Lebanon and leadership are key issues among those that mark Mr Reagan's road to four more years in the White House. He dismissed as "fiction" the suggestion that he is not in charge and waits too long to make a decision.

It was Mr Walter Mondale, his main Democratic rival for the preidency, who recently accused the President of governing by amnesia. "I'm surprised he knew what the word meant," Mr Reagan scoffed, a remark more barbed than his usual style.

He looked taken aback by the exceptional severity of the questioning. "As to that fiction about whether I sit back and them somebody tells me what to do – that's a lack of understanding of how our system has been working here", he said.

And as for Mr Mondale's attacks: "If that's all he has to talk about out there on the trail to his audiences, why, let him go. I'm going to talk about the things we are doing and the things we intend to do."

Wednesday's night's press conference will have delighted the Democrats. Mr Reagan is 73, already the oldest President America had had. His age and his leadership style are now firmly established as election issues. "I have never gons upstairs from that (Oval) office once that I have not carried an entire evening full of homework with me", he said defensively.

"And I could tell you about the sniping that takes place at so-called vacations like the four days I spent at the ranch. Presidents, I've learned, don't take vacations. They just get a change of scenery."

That particular vacation was taken immediately after he announced the Marine pullout. While he rode on horseback and cleared brush, the USS New Jersey was pounding nearly 300 16in one-ton shells into areas around Beirut while his Lebanon policy collapsed. It was not a four-day holiday – he arrived on the Tuesday and left on the Sunday.

The President became especially heated when somebody asked him to respond to suggestions that he does not spend enough time being President: "They don't know what they are talking about. And I almost made that a little more blunt right then but decided it would be unseemly if I did."

On Lebanon he said that "once the terrorist attacks started there was no way that we could really contribute to the original mission by staying there as a target just bunkering down and waiting for further attacks".

His recollection of the chronology was awry – in fact it was four months after the terrorist attacks began that he ordered the troops out. Only three weeks ago he accused the Democrats of wanting to surrender by withdrawing the Marines.

He vigorously defended Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, who consistently urged the President to let the Marines stay in Beirut. Some Democrats have demanded the resignation of Mr Shultz, who himself took a four-day holiday to the Bahamas the day that the Marines began their rapid departure. Would Mr Reagan accept his resigantion? "No I wouldn't," he said.

The President was asked to say something to the parents and widows of the 241 marines who died in the massive bomb attack in Beirut on October 23. He said he had talked to many of the widows and parents "And I have been amazed at their attitude, which was one of complete confidence that it was a worthwhile mission".

He insisted that the United States was not turning tail in Lebanon. "We are not bugging out, we are just going to a little more defensible position."

On other issues Mr Reagan reiterated America's determination to keep open the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

He advocated a constitutional amendment – soon to be discussed in the Senate – to allow voluntary prayer in schools.

Along for the ride: A Lebanese boy swings on a machine gun mounted on a US Marines Jeep leaving Beirut.

Defectors take over in Beirut

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

With Israeli jets flying high over Beirut on their way yet again to bomb around the town of Bhamdoun above Beirut, Muslim units of the Lebanese Army's Sixth Brigade, who defected to the Shia Muslim militias when the Government Army broke apart earlier this month, moved back onto the streets of the west of the city yesterday. immaculately dressed in combat fatigues, fully armed and driving armoured personnel carriers and tanks.

Only a lonely truck carrying Amal gunmen was there behind each convoy to betray just who really was in command of the soldiers.

Along the Corniche and the beachside at Ramlet el-Baida, pedestrians were too busy waving at the soldiers – something they would never have done when the troops were under President Amin Gemayel's command – to notice the high silver shapes of the Israeli aircraft or the brown smoke that began to drift up from the mountains around Bhamdoun at lunchtime.

The explosions could be heard far away and the Israelis later claimed that they had bombed Palestinian positions, although the Druze "Voice of the Mountain" radio station alleged later that Lebanese government troops had opened an artillery bombardment on the Druze in the town at the same time as the air raids.

Declaring that they were the "National Army" one officer even declared himself to be a member of a "People's Army" – the appearance of anti-Government Lebanese troops, claiming to be as patriotic as their Christian colleagues in the Army on the other side of the front line in Beirut, has at last consecrated the break-up of Government forces in Lebanon.

If President Gemayel orders Christian troops of the Army to recapture west Beirut, they will now have to fight their Muslim opposite numbers in the same uniforms and in some cases using identical weapons.

The Muslim soldiers were also intended to demonstrate to the population that Mr Nabih Berri, the Shia Muslim Amal leader, wants to maintain authority in west Beirut and – even more important – to portray that authority as legitimate.

Christian troops aided by Christian militias control east Beirut: Now Muslim troops aided by Muslim militias control west Beirut. Mr Gemayal will have understood the equation.

Israeli planes pound Lebanese targets

Continued from page 1

the Palestinians who fought alongside them in the recent rout of the Lebanese Army.

Despite firm denials from many Western observers in Beirut, Israeli military intelligence, on whose assessments the latest raids are planned, is understood to have supplied the Chief of Staff with detailed information alleging that 7,000 Palestinian fighters are now based in various parts of Lebanon.

The Israelis appear unmoved by the denials from Western journalists and diplomats, insisting that 2,000 Palestinians (many of whom they claim are operating under cover) have now penetrated back into west Beirut, double the number last month. The army also estimates that 1,300 Palestinian "terrorists" are now based in the battered Lebanese port of Tripoli, between 2,300 and 2,700 in the Bekaa valley and 1,500 in the central Metn mountain region.

Their claims about the reinfiltration of west Beirut – which have raised fears there of new air raids – are not backed with any evidence which they are prepared to make available to journalists.

Under questioning it is acknowledged that the figure is "an assessment" but it is claimed to be a conservative one.

He produced recent aerial photographs which showed that a Soviet-made T55 tank was stationed outside a building in Bhamdoun which he said was another base of the PFLP–GC, led by Ahmed Jibril, the former officer in the Syrian Army regarded by Israel as the most effective Palestinian fighter now operating. One thousand of the alleged 7,000 guerrillas there are said by the Israelis to be his men.

As during the peak of the bombing os west Beirut in 1982, the Israeli military authorities are upset about how their latest actions in Lebanon are being reported by Western press men based in Beirut. They have singled out the British press for particular criticism.



Naval might: A US Navy photograph of the new Soviet aircraft carrier Novorossiysk cruising recently in the South China Sea. The Navy said the 43,000 ton Kiev Class carrier has about 35 aircraft and is armed with surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, Gatling-type guns and torpedoes.

Jakarta puts Fretilin rebels on trial

From Our Correspondent
Jakarta

In an apparent policy change, the Indonesian Government has begun trying members of the Fretilin resistance movement in civil courts on subversion charges, and has sentenced a total of 12 men to six to eight years imprisonment in the past three months.

Another 12 suspected Fretilin members are reported to be awaiting trial in the East Timor capital of Dili. News of the first trial of five men in December reached Jakarta last month, and the official news agency, Antara, reported yesterday that another seven men, identified as school wardens, farmers and fishermen, had been sentenced.

Antara said the seven had been charged with belonging to an illegal organization in Dili, and made no mention of Fretilin.

A Department of Justice spokesman declined comment yesterday on whether the civil trials constituted a policy change.

According to military sources, some 300 to 400 armed Fretilin rebels remain in the mountains of East Timor.

'Slander' drives banker to suicide

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv

Mr Yaakov Levinson, a banker and financial strongman in the Israeli labour movement, committed suicide yesterday morning by shooting himself on the rooftop patio of his home in a Tel Aviv suburb.

A few hours earlier, the police frand division had formed a team to examine transactions in Bank Hapoalim (the workers' bank) between 1979 and 1981, when Mr Levinson was chairman of the bank's board of directors and of its subsidiary, Ampal of New York, which was formed to mobilize capital for the labour movement.

Police suspicions were not officially disclosed, but media reports alleged that Mr Levinson, aged 52, had sold bank assets to Ampal at book value, which was considerably lower than their real worth. He resigned from the bank in 1981 but served in Ampal until the scandal broke last month.

In a suicide note, left under a telephone near the doorway of his home in the Ramat Gan, he wrote that former associates in the bank and the General Federation of Labour had intrigued against him, adding slander to slander to brand him for "crimes and mismanagement".

He said he had been perfectly clean, but his successor at the bank had told him: "They want you under a marble slab". He said he did not wish to spend the rest of his life fighting off slanders.

The bank's board began its secret investigation some 10 months ago on the basis of anonymous letters. On February 9 its legal adviser turned the material over to the Attorney General in Jerusalem, who transferred it the same day to the police.

The story surfaced last month in *Haolam Hazeh*, a weekly magazine. The editor, Mr Uri Avnery, said yesterday he had shown the material to Mr Levinson and invited his comments, but the banker had not offered convincing explanations and had merely made counter-charges against rivals in the organization.

Mr Levinson was born in Tel Aviv. He was considered a financial wizard as head of the Bank Hapoalim, which under his leadership grew quickly into one of the big three in the Israeli banking system. He seldom appeared in public, declined to be interviewed on television or radio, and was regarded as a mystery man who used his power behind the scenes.

Before the 1981 Israeli elections, which Labour lost, the party leadership proposed him as finance minister.

Death penalty supported in US Senate

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

The US Senate has approved by 63 to 32 votes a bill to restore the death penalty for major federal crimes. Capital offences would include treason, espionage, kidnapping and attempts to assassinate the President.

However, the Bill, which has the Reagan Administration's backing, faces fierce opposition from opponents of capital punishment in the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives.

The Senate action on Wednesday was the first time in a decade that either House of Congress had voted to legalize capital punishment for federal crimes after a 1972 Supreme Court ruling which effectively nullified death penalty laws then on the books.

Since then 38 states have legalized the death penalty

Iran claims 22 villages seized and vital highway severed

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Iran yesterday claimed to have achieved big gains in its latest offensive against Iraq, cutting the main road between Baghdad and Basra in several places.

If true, these advances would constitute a substantial setback for Iraq. For their part, the Iraqis claimed to have defeated an Iranian advance to the east of Basra.

The Iranians claimed to have captured 22 Iraqi villages, as well as the town of Al Qurnah, just north of the confluence of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates. Al Qurnah is the largest centre of population so far claimed to have been captured by the Iranians. It is about 15 miles from the border between the two countries.

If the Iranians have effectively cut the road north from Basra, and driven a wedge between the Iraqi Third and Fourth Corps, as they claim, it is likely to disrupt Iraq's logistic supplies very severely, and could lead to the isolating of Basra, which is Iraq's second largest town.

The Iranian claims were reported by the official Iranian news agency, which said: "With this Iranian victory, the enemy has lost one of its most important logistical routes."

The official Iraqi news agency, INA, however, quoted the commander of the Fourth Iraqi Army Corps as denying that the Iranians were in control of the highway between Basra and Amarah, and denied they had reached the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates.

Iraqi sources reported a heavy Iranian artillery barrage in the vicinity of Basra, but claimed that an Iranian attack east of Basra had "ended with the total annihilation of the attacking forces and the victory of the Iraqi armed forces."

Sources in London yesterday were keeping an open mind about the truth of the claims and counter-claims by the two sides. If the Iranian claims prove to be true they will mark much the greatest penetration they have achieved in the war, which has lasted over three and a half years.

There is surprise in the West that Iraq appears to be taking little advantage of its superiority in air power and in tanks and artillery.

By fighting what appears to be a static infantry war, Iraq seems to be playing into the hands of the Iranians, who have vastly greater resources of manpower.

US concerned at British sales to Teheran

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The United States has expressed concern privately to the British Government about the sale of non-lethal equipment and spare parts to Iran. The Americans fear that Britain may be unintentionally supplying equipment of military value.

Sir John Leahy, a deputy under secretary at the Foreign Office – the senior British official dealing with the Middle East – met several American officials at the State Department in Washington on Wednesday. The Americans emphasized their concern that the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini could be getting equipment and spares from Britain that will help in its war against Iraq.

The British have told the Americans that every item sold to Iran is subjected to a rigorous scrutiny. US officials, however, remain worried. As one senior source said: "As a purely illustrative example, would wing-tip pods for non-combat aircraft be regarded as lethal or non-lethal? In themselves they are not lethal but if they make an aircraft fly, what then?"

Sir John arrived in Washington on Tuesday from Paris, where he held consultations about the situation in Lebanon. He spent yesterday at the United Nations, principally for discussions about the crisis in Beirut. His discussions with Administration officials in Washington embraced the full range of Middle East issues, but American representations about the sale of British equipment to Iran took up much of his time.

Among State Department officials he met on Wednesday was Mr Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs.

One senior Administration source described the American attitude towards the sale of British equipment to Iran as one of annoyance. Iran has many British-made tanks supplied when the Shah was in power that are in need of parts. The Iranians are especially in need of aircraft spares. For example, they have 60 or 70 American-made F14 fighters of which only about 12 are airworthy.

A State Department spokesman said that the United States clearly could not control what Britain or other allies sold to Iran: "We have to make out case on a case-by-case basis."

He continued: "In general it is up to the British Government. We make known our concern about specific things, items that we think could be used militarily. Any time your have a policy of this kind, obviously there are conflicts and different interpretations.

The British Embassy in Washington denied emphatically that Britain sells lethal equipment to Iran. A spokesman said: "It is just not true that British engines and that kind of thing are being supplied. There is a very clear overall policy that we do not supply – and have not supplied since the beginning of the (Iran-Iraq) war – lethal weapons to either side."

Craxi and Kohl hold EEC talks

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, arrived here yesterday for talks with Chancellor Kohl aimed at averting a breakdown of the forthcoming European summit. Immediately after his departure this afternoon the Chancellor will fly to Paris to continue the discussion with President Mitterrand.

The talks with Signor Craxi, attended also by Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Foreign Minister, are part of regular consulations between Bonn and Rome. But Herr Kohl sees them as particularly important in his offensive to try to force a compromsie at Brussels.

On Wednesday he called together the senior ministers most involved in the hectic discussions now going on about Europe. In a confidential session with Herr Dans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, and the Ministers of Finance, Economics and Agriculture, the Chancellor hammered out the maximum concessions his Government is prepared to make to it European partners, its stance on an agricultural price rise and how much Germany is prepared to pay into the EEC coffers.

There had been complaints that preparatory work by the Chancellor's office had lacked coordination.

Democratic race may be almost over

Buoyant Mondale moves in for the kill

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

Has Mr Walter Mondale already got the Democratic nomination sewn up? As the eight candidates embark on their final rounds of frenetic campaigning in New Hampshire, there is a growing feeling among political observers and in the various campaign headquarters that the race may be all over by next Wednesday.

Consider the present state of the contest. Mr Mondale won more votes in last Monday's Iowa causes than all of his seven challengers combined. More important, he won 48 of the state's 50 elected delegates who will attend the party's nominating convention in July.

Of the 214 convention delegates who have so far expressed their candidate preferences, more than half – 127 of them – have declared themselves for Mr Mondale. This figure includes 76 of the 164 members of the House of Representatives who will be delegates in San Francisco.

By comparison, Senator John Glenn has only 17 confirmed delegates and Senator Gary Hart, who came second in Iowa, a mere six.

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Consider also the organization which Mr Mondale has established in all 50 states and the huge amounts of money which he has at his disposal. His huge victory in Iowa was a clear example of the importance of money and manpower when it comes to winning votes.

The Iowa contest showed that although Senator Glenn spent as much as Mr Mondale ($700,000 (£480,000) in both cases), his organization – or "disorganization" as one of his rivals described his campaign – did not begin to match Mr Mondale's.

Nor, for that matter, did he have a political message to match that put out by Mr George McGovern, who had neither money nor organization but nevertheless trounced Senator Glenn.

Mr Mondale enters next Tuesday's primary in New Hampshire with the polls showing him as firmly in first place as he was in Iowa. By all accounts his organization there is every bit as efficient as it was in Iowa. And by the time voting takes place he will have spent the maximum allowed under Federal Election Commission rules.

Although New Hampshire Democrats are more conservative than they are in Iowa, it is hard to see Mr Mondale being knocked from his front-runner position, although he is not expected to win by such a large margin as he did on Monday.

If he does come first he will then enter the next, crucial stage of the race, when a cluster of 18 states hold primaries and caucuses over three weeks, as the overwhelming favourite.

The key contests during this period will be in the South and in Massachusetts. The South was considered the region where Senator Glenn had the best chance of catching up with Mr Mondale. But unless the former astronaut can reignite his campaign in New Hampshire, which seems increasingly unlikely, the trouncing which he suffered on Monday is certain to undermine his credibility among voters in Georgia, Alabama and Florida on March 13, which has become known as "Super Tuesday".

Senator Glenn's chances in liberal Massachusetts, the only state which voted with Mr McGovern in 1972, were never rated highly. The only real issue there is whether supporters of Senator Edward Kennedy will throw their lot in with Mr Mondale or opt for Mr McGovern or Senator Hart instead.

Is there anything that can derail Mr Mondale? Probably not, although Senator Hart believes that a strong second placing by himself in New Hampshire would enhance his credibility as an alternative to the former Vice-President.

Although his organization is weak in the South, Senator Hart's staff believe there is still time to halt the Mondale juggernaut on "Super Tuesday". They expect the Rev Jesse Jackson to capture most of the black vote which might have otherwise gone to Mr Mondale, and that Mr Reubin Askew, the former Governor of Florida, will run ahead of Mr Mondale in his home state.

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Cargo craft links in space with Salyut-7

Moscow (Reuter) – An unmanned cargo craft yesterday linked up with the orbiting Soviet space station Salyut-7 to deliver fuel, instruments and mail to three cosmoanuts on board.

Tass said the craft, Progress-19, which was launched two days ago, had been guided in by ground control and the three Salyut crewmen and linked up at 0811 GMT.

The cosmonauts – Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyov and Oleg Atkov – have been on board Salyut-7 for two weeks. They are expected to stay in orbit for several months, possibly even breaking the Soviet 211-day endurance record set in 1982.

The Tass report added that the three component parts of the space station were all functioning well. These are Salyut-7 itself, the Soyuz T-10 craft which brought up the crew and the newly-arrived cargo ship.

Killer reprieved in South Africa

Pretoria (AFP) – A man said to have been hired by a British citizen, Maureen Smith, to kill her husband was yesterday granted a reprieve from the gallows by President Marais Viljden. Mrs Smith's death sentence had earlier been commuted.

The sentence on David Mnguni, which had been upheld by the appeal court, was commuted to 30 years' imprisonment. According to the evidence, Mrs Smith asked her chauffeur to find someone to kill her husband, Mr Roger Smith, who was later found stabbed to death.

Brazilians loot food stores

São Paulo – Mobs of up to 2,000 have stripped dozens of Ministry of Agriculture and other food stores in the northern state of Ceará in the past few weeks, as the rains failed for the fifth year running.

The state capital of Fortaleza, where almost two million people live, or have taken refuge, has only enough water for another 40 days, despite strict rationing.

Hongkong date

Peking (AFP) – Chinese and British negotiators wound up their latest round of talks here on the future of Hongkong with a joint statement that the session has been "useful and constructive." The next round will be on March 16 and 17 in Peking.

New York blast

New York (AP) – Terrorists hurled three bombs into the grounds of a Soviet residential compound in the Bronx, setting a diplomat's car on fire. A militant Jewish group claimed responsibility.

Danish vote

Copenhagen – Denmark's recently-elected Conservative-Liberal minority coalition cleared its first big hurdle of the new session yesterday when Parliament belatedly passed its austerity Finance Bill by 79 votes to 27.

Lima attack

Lima (AP) – Shining Path guerrillas hurled explosives at the Lima home of the president of Peru's Senate, Señor Ricardo Monteagudo, seriously damaging the residence but causing no injuries.

£850,000 dress

Tokyo (AP) – A wedding dress embroidered with diamonds and pearls worth an estimated £850,000 was modeled here at a bridal collection show.

هكذا من الأصل

British lawyers seek end to ban on defending Grenada accused

By Our Foreign Staff

Fearing that those charged with the murder in October of Maurice Bishop, Grenadian Prime Minister, are being denied an expert defence, a foreign legal team, including Lord Gifford, QC, has appealed against the Grenadian High Court's refusal this week to allow British lawyers to represent the accused.

"Grenadian lawyers will not act for the detainees," Lord Gifford told *The Times* yesterday from Grenada, after the 18 suspects charged so far had appeared handcuffed in a heavily-guarded court on Wednesday, as an angry crowd of 600 outside chanted: "Hang them all", and "murderer, murderer".

Grenada's lawyers fear being associated with the views of the accused, the British barrister said. Thirty-eight men and women are being held in Richmond Hill prison in connexion with last autumn's coup and the murders of Bishop, three of his ministers and four officials.

Seven former members of the Army are charged with the murders, while others are charged with conspiracy under a 1980 terrorism law.

Those accused of conspiracy include Mr Bernard Coard, the former Deputy Prime Minister and Bishop's rival. Their cases stand adjourned until April4.

All 38 detainees are being represented by Miss Jacqueline Samuels-Brown, a Jamaican lawyer who under Grenadian law is permitted to practice in Grenada. The High Court has ruled that this law implicitly excludes non-Caribbean lawyers from acting in the island.

The Appeal Court will not hear Lord Gifford's appeal against this ruling until May. In the meantime, Lord Gifford said, the prison governor, Mr Lionel Maloney of Barbados, has further restricted Miss Samuels-Brown's access to the accused. She now can see her 38 clients only three days a week for a total of 30 minutes each day.

Lord Gifford, Miss Samuels-Brown and Miss Sarah Burton, a London solicitor, are "discussing what further steps can be taken to ensure a full defence." Lord Gifford said yesterday. The Britons are being sponsored by the London Committee for Human Rights in Grenada. British officials in Grenada are also monitoring the judicial process.

The trial of those alleged to have been involved in the shooting of Mr Bishop and his friends and supporters will take place at the small assize court in St George's. But Grenada is bankrupt – it can barely afford to pay its civil servants, teachers and police – and needs assistance to meet the expense of a trial.

Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the interim administration, said he hoped that a Grenadian lawyer, now working for the Canadian Government, will be lent by the Canadians to take up the post of director of prosecutions, and that a British barrister will be paid by the Commonwealth to lead the prosecuting team. The Barbados Bar Society has also promised assistance.

Along with the difficulties of collecting evidence and framing charges, and finding ways to finance the trial, there is another complication. Grenadians are anxious to see the detainees tried, but a trial could be lengthy and a rouser of strong feelings. The Government does not want it to clash with the election promised for later this year.

David the 'bubble boy' dies after two weeks of freedom





David, the 12-year-old boy who spent almost all his life in a germ-free "bubble", has died in hospital in Houston, Texas.

He is shown above at the ages of three, six and twelve.

He was born with no immunity to disease, and died on Wednesday night of complications apparently caused by a transplant of bone marrow last October from his sister Katherine, aged 15.

David was released from his sterile quarters *two weeks ago. He had fallen ill for the first time in his life and needed special treatment for fever.*

He then suffered intestinal bleeding and a stomach ulcer. His condition become critical after fluid had to be drained from around his heart and lungs.

He was known only as David to protect his family's privacy, and spent most of his life in *Houston's Texas Children's Hospital.*

In recent years he was able to live at home in a specially sealed room where he had school lessons over closed-circuit television.

Argentina's former air chief faces arrest

From Douglas Tweedale
Buenos Aires

Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, the former commander of the Argentine Air Force, faced probable arrest yesterday as he went before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces to give evidence on his role in the Falklands War.

His arrest would complete the detention of the members of the military junta which ordered the invasion of the Falklands on April 2, 1982 and set off the 14-week war which left more than 800 Argentine soldiers dead.

On Wednesday the Supreme Council ordered the arrest of Admiral Jorge Anaya, the former Navy commander, who was one of the early advocates of the invasion, but kept virtually all the Navy's ships out of action for fear of attack by British nuclear-powered submarines after the sinking of the cruiser, General Belgrano.

Admiral Anaya was being held yesterday at the Navy Mechanics' School in Buenos Aires, a site believed to have been used as a secret detention centre by the Navy during the military's campaign to exterminate left-wing dissidents in the 1970s.

The former President, General Leopoldo Galtieri, the third member of the junta which ordered the invasion, was arrested by the same military court on Tuesday, and is being held at the Campo de Mayo Army base on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

The Supreme Council is court-martialling General Galtieri, Admiral Anaya, Brigadier Lani Dozo and 11 other officers for their part in the ill-fated war, after a special military commission accused them of negligent planning, inadequate preparation and military and diplomatic bungling once the fighting began.

Although the court's proceedings are secret, a military source said it could reach a verdict in the cases of the three junta members between two weeks and a month from now.

The arrest of General Galtieri and his top commanders is simply a "preventive measure", the source said, based on a presumption that they are guilty of at least some of the crimes of which they are accused.

Possible delays in the Falklands War trials could arise from the fact that the Supreme Council, made up of three representatives each from the Army, Navy and Air Force, is already trying 10 senior military officers accused by President Raúl Alfonsin of responsibility for human rights atrocities under the military regime which stepped down last December.

Proceedings have already begun in the human rights trial, and the nine members of the first three military juntas to hold power (including General Galtieri's) have been notified of the charges against them.

Hint of solution to Cambodia problem

From David Watts, Bandar Seri Bagawan, Brunei

Vietnam now appears as eager as the countries of the Association of South-East Asian nations (Asean) to get out of the Cambodian dilemma.

But Hanoi has yet to show its hand, according to General Benny Murdani, Chief of Staff of the Indonesian armed forces, who recently visited Vietnam.

The principle clue that Hanoi may be ready to consider an accommodation is that the Vietnamese Army has not launched its annual dry-season offensive against the Cambodian resistance this year. The attack usually comes as soon as the monsoon rains cease and the battlefield advantage swings to conventional tactics.

The Vietnamese have held back in spite of some striking operational successes claimed by the Khmer Rouge in recent weeks, including the taking and temporary holding of two towns in Battambang province.

General Murdani, who has visited Vietnam in the past as the personal emissary of President Suharto, caused consternation when he said in Hanoi that he did not consider Vietnam a threat to South-East Asia, the cornerstone of Asean's demand for the withdrawal of Vietnam's 180,000 troops has always been that its presence in Cambodia threatened Thailand.

The general told *The Times* yesterday that his remarks did not imply that he was happy with the continued presence of Vietnam's men in Cambodia. He maintained that Asean's diplomatic position remained firmly behind Vietnam's withdrawal and the holding of elections, but there have been *signs of flexibility* since last year's non-aligned meeting in Delhi.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister who, like General Murdani, is attending Brunei's National Day celebrations, said there were prospects for progress when the Vietnamese Foriegn Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, visits both Indonesia and Australia next month.

Australia, under the Labour Government, has been pursuing a role as broker between Asean and Veitnam. Along with the Belgians the Australians appealed to Hanoi not to attack the Cambodian guerrillas this year.

General Murdani has invited the Vietnamese to appoint a military attache in Jakarta, and called on his Vietnamese counterpart, General Van Tien Dung, to visit Indonesia.

Basque election challenges González policies

From Richard Wigg, Vitoria

In the Basque country, February is proving a cruel month for Spain's 14-month-old Socialist government. The unexpectedly long honeymoon is over as a general election in this stubbornly autonomous region on Sunday challenges the Gonzalez government's handling of a severe local economic crisis and of the endemic terrorist problem.

While Madrid puts overriding emphasis on combatting Eta, Basque opinion is clearly more worried by the depression. Proportionately, three times more jobs were lost here in an eight-year period than in Britain. Unemployment is running at more than 20 per cent and the figure will rise further if central government plans to restructure the Basque region's big industries such as steel and shipbuilding get under way this year.

The job shedding has aggravated the divisions between native-born Basques and the rest of the population. Exacerbated nationalism provides an additional ugly element to a bitterly fought campaign. Eta alone benefits from the depression to which its still widely levied "revolutionary tax" on Basque businessmen has significantly contributed.

Facing unkept election promises

Triumphant in the national election on the slogan promising the creation of 800,000 jobs throughout Spain, the Socialist Party now has to present itself with such unkept promises.

Facing José Maria Benegas, their rigid and not very inspiring leader in the Basque country, is Carlos Garaicoechea, the smiling and astute chief minister in the outgoing Basque autonomous government.

In the past four years the middle-of-the-road Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) which he leads, has recreated the apparatus of an autonomous government lost by the Basques at the end of the civil war. There has been in-party feuding, nationalistic intolerance over jobs and Euskera (the Basque language), but also an undeniable achievement with which to go back to the 1.5 million Basque electors.

Deep-rooted problem of law and order

Señor Benegas, whose party got only 14 per cent of the votes compared with 37.7 per cent for the PNV in 1980, has judged that the call to "finish off Eta" corresponds with the desire for peace of a majority of Basque citizens.

Unfortunately for the Socialists, a law and order campaign inspired from Madrid runs into deep-rooted problems in the Basque country. Every time the Socialists accuse Señor Garaicoechea of failing to collaborate unambiguously with the security forces against Eta terrorism, the chief minister replies that his government still has no powers in that sphere delegated by Madrid and the Basque autonomous police force no such responsibilities either.

The most emotional contribution to the campaign has however come from the People's Unity coalition (HB), the left-wing Basque nationalist front organization of Eta. In 1980 HB was the second force, ahead of the Socialists, with 16.3 per cent of the votes. The Socialists are striving at least to beat it this time

People's Unity has seized on the unemployment issue to dispute the working-class vote with the Socialists. The campaign has been grimly spattered with the blood of Eta victims, including a general and members of the mysterious "Liberation from Terrorism" groups (GAL).

GAL, which has killed four suspected Eta leaders in the Basque region of south-west France, has been a godsend for People's Unity, a card to be played against Madrid for the PNV, and an embarrassment for the Socialists.

Spain gives Verdi's Don Carlo a reprieve

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

Spain's bureaucracy has been obliged by public outcry to relent and allow Verdi's opera *Don Carlo* to be staged this summer with a star cast at the Escorial, the sixteenth-century royal palace and monastery built for King Philip II

The highly unfavourable portrayal of the king, and his relations with his son, Don Carlos, caused the official body supervising all the royal estates to rule last November that staging the opera at the very site where the king had lived would be "unseemly". It would only contribute abroad to the so-called "black legend" of Spanish history, they maintained.

After suffering weeks of ridicule the body, whose chairman is the Marquis of Mondejar, the head of the royal household, relented at an emergency meeting on Wednesday night. They evidently realized that the previous stand was itself reviving past images of an obscurantist Spain.

If things go well, the Spanish tenor Joé Carreras will sing the title role in July in a production directed by Franco Zeffirelli, with the orchestra and chorus of La Scala, Milan conducted by Leonard Bernstein. Spanish state television hopes to sell the filmed opera afterwards around the world. One problem the organizers have apparently overlooked is that the exact site, the royal patio, presents serious acoustic problems.

Verdi's libretto is based on the Schiller's play, which highlights all the key elements of the black legend about Spain – besides the King himself, the Inquisition and the freedom struggle in Flanders with which Don Carlos is portrayed as sympathizing.

Cardinal Sin speaks out

Marcos warned of bloodshed threat

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The Philippines Primate, Cardinal Jaime Sin, yesterday warned President Marcos that he risked nationwide violence and bloodshed if he did not agree to the conditions demanded by the opposition before they would contest May's elections for the National Assembly.

The united oppostiion's six-point proposal, issued last month, "to ensure free and honest elections" would strip Mr Marcos, who is 66, of much of his autocratic powers.

The opposition is also demanding wide-ranging electoral reforms (some of which have been granted) and a general amnesty for an estimated 900 political prisoners.

These demands are reasonable and within the power of Mr Marcos to grant, Cardinal Sin told a Rotary Club luncheon.

He said every Filipino had a right to clean elections, and to deny them this right was to commit an injustice.

"If we do not solve this problem through the ballot, I am just too afraid that we might solve it through violence. I would not like to see blood running in our streets", he said.

Cardinal Sin called on the people to vote in the elections despite a boycott call by some opposition groups after Mr Marcos failed to agree to their demands by February 14, three months before polling day.

Cardinal Sin also issued a statement announcinbg his support for three priests and six church lay workers whose trial on multiple murder charges began yesterday in the central Philippine city of Bacolod.

Father Brian Gore from Australia and an Irish priest, Father Niall O'Brien, are accused with a Filipino priest and the church workers of the 1982 murder of a town mayor and four of his aides.

They have pleaded not guilty and claim they are victims of a military frame-up to expel them from the island of Negros for mobilizing poor sugar-cane workers to denounce government corruption, military abuses, and poor wages and conditions.



Cardinal Sin: Plea to Philippine electors.

76 saved from oil rig in Atlantic

From John Best
Ottawa

The 76-member crew of a drilling rig was rescued from lifeboats in the North Atlantic yesterday, after being forced to abandon the platform late on Wednesday night.

. The crew of the rig, Vinland, took to the boats when a blow-out occurred at a natural gas well off Sable Island, a 25-mile-long sand spit 175-miles east of Halifax.

In a blow-out, gas combined with mud and rock shoots up from the drill hole, often causing fire and destruction on the rig.

The rig apparently stayed afloat. After a chilly night in two enclosed lifeboats, the crew were taken aboard supply vessels in the vicinity

The Brunei party to end all parties

From Our Own Correspondent
Bandar Seri Begawan,
Brunei

Not since the fantasies of The Arabian Nights has there been anything quite like it. In a 350-acre palace, more than 4,000 guests celebrated independent Brunei's first National Day last night with a banquet to match the scale of the gold-domed building.

After a day in which he was treated as Brunei's most important guest out of government representatives, the Prince of Wales joined Kings and presidents from Malaysia to Pakistan in a celebration which is unlikely to be repeated.

Royalty and heads of state sat amid the palace's 16 acres of marbled halls, with the lesser luminaries outside in warm beezes, for the high point of Brunei's multi-million-pound national party. Thirteen vast crystal chandeliers hung over the top table where the Sultan, Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah, marked the re-emergence in full independence of the 400-year-old sultanate.

The day began early at the National Stadium. Journalists covering a rally of the majority of the tiny country's population had to leave their hotels at 4.30 in the morning.

Prince Charles, in a grey suit and cream tie, took his place to the left of the Sultan, as the honoured guest though, strictly speaking, in Brunei's complex four-tier protocol system he was out-ranked by the King of Malaysia to the Sultan's right.

The Prince sat next to Pengiran Hajja Mariam, the second of the Sultan's two wives, an attractive former air hostess in rich green Malay dress. She excitedly pointed out some of the finer points of the display, which was watched by about 50,000 Bruneians.

But the Sultan had another surprise. Not only did every senior foreign visitor have the use of a Rolls-Royce from the Sultan's personal stable of 110 cars, but he appeared in his latest acquisition from Derby, a long-wheel-base Rolls-Royce with six doors

But then the Sultan did not have to ask the price. This year the Sultanate will earn about £3 billion in oil and gas revenues and spend half of it.



Solemn moment: The King of Brunei and the Prince of Wales at the celebrations.

El Salvador election

Colonels accused of influencing voters

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Salvadorean Army colonels have been accused of disobeying explicit directives from the Armed Forces High Command to stay out of politics and using their power to influence the outcome of the Presidential election on March 25.

Leaders of El Salvador's biggest labour organization, the Popular Democratic Unity (UPD), which has 500,000 members, made this accusation on Wednesday, noting that officers had been ordered by the Armed Forces Chief of Staff - in a break with Salvadorean tradition - to keep their political views strictly to themselves during the electoral process. Labour spokesmen said at least five colonels were allegedly disobeying these instructions.

Independent political sources and labour spokesmen named Colonel Rolands Ramos, who is based in San Salvador and is a committed supporter of Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's right-wing Republican Nationalist Allinace (Arena).

They claimed that Colonel Ramos's men had given youths in San Marcos, 18 miles west of the capital, the choice of joining the Army or becoming an active Arena campaign worker.

An associate of Major D'Aubuisson, Colonel Mario Denis Moran, has also been accused of using his position as regional commander in the province of La Paz to influence the voting.

Colonel Morán is said to have changed his views and become a persuasive ally of the dark horse candidate in the elections, Dr Francisco Guerrero, of the National Conciliation Party (PCN).

The Mayor of the provincial capital of La Paz, Zacatecoluca, who is a PCN supporter, said Colonel Morán and other officers were accompanying him on electoral campaign trips around the province. "We have close ties with the *comandantes*", the Mayor, said. He is a 14-year veteran of the PCN, a party of the Salvadorean establishment with a more restrained right-wing stance than Arena.

Christian Democrats in Zacatecoluca say that local people have been intimidated by the colonel against voting for their candidate, Señor José Napoleón Duarte. "More than anything else the Army is anti-Christian Democrat", Dr Guerrero said.

Some officers against whom evidence of political participation has been collected are supporting the PCN. Others are for Arena, but the Christian Democrats are almost universally reviled among the military because of the fear that Señor Duarte will carry our a purge, in the manner of President Alfonsin In Argentina, if he comes to power.

There is evidence, too, that Arena is losing support among previously loyal military men fearful that a cut in US aid following a d'Aubuisson victory could hand military victory to the left-wing guerrillas and destroy the army as an institution.

The PCN is consequently emerging as a serious competitor for the right-wing vote.

Cameroon trial

Yaoundé (AFP) – Former Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo is one of three people accused of plotting against the state in a trial which opened here. He is being tried *in absentia*, but two aides accused with him were in court.

President makes appeal for peace in Punjab

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi

President Giani Zail Singh opened the joint session of the Indian Parliament yesterday with an appeal to the people of Punjaab to restore normality and peace as the death toll in violence since Tuesday rose to 28.

Fourteen people were killed in Punjab yesterday, partly inretaliation for six killings in the neighbouring Hindu-majority state of Haryana.

The Indian Cabinet has met twice in the last five days to take stock of the situation. What began as the stray killing of a Hindu at the hands of an extremist Sikh in Punjaab has developed into an open Hindu-Sikh conflit in parts of Punjab, spilling over to Haryana where Hindus are taking revenge on the Sikhs.

News agencies say the Army is being consulted by both states with a view to restoring peace.

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has told members of her party that the Government would not allow anyone to use a place of worship for stockpiling arms and harbouring people wanted by the authorities.

There are reports that Sikh extremists take shelter in *gurdwaras*, Sikh temples, after killing Hindus.

The point that religious places were being used by terrorists was also made by President Giani Zail Singh. This part of his speech was reported to have been put in by the Government.

Mrs Gandhi has said that terorists seemed to be getting the upper hand.

THE TIMES
GUIDE TO THE US PRIMARIES

Godfrey Hodgson traces changing fashions for primaries and caucuses in American elections and identifies (below) key dates and developments

The rise and fall of the presidential primary

Graphics by John Grimwade

NUMBER OF PRIMARIES

18 19 17 23 30 31 26

Kennedy 1960 | Johnson 1964 | Nixon 1968 | Nixon 1972 | Carter 1976 | Reagan 1980 | 1984

The result of this week's Iowa precinct caucuses does more than establish Walter "Fritz" Mondale as the favourite to stand against Mr Reagan in November for the Democratic Party. It also illustrates how the complex rules for choosing presidential condidates are constantly changing, under the twin pressures of campaign strategy and the voracious need of the press and television for a new story.

Mr Mondale won almost 50 per cent of the votes on Monday night in Iowa, not in a primary election – though you might be forgiven for thinking so – but in a souped-up version of the device which primaries were invented to replace in the early years of this century: the caucus, or party meeting.

American presidential candidates are chosen by the two major parties at their nominating conventions. The convention delegates will be chosen over the next four months by two basic methods, each of which has many variants.

In some states, they will be chosen in caucuses: in others they will be chosen in primary elections by either all voters in the states or all registered voters of each party. And the system has now spawned a hybrid between the caucus and the primary.

Primaries were first introduced in the Progressive Era of reform, in the early years of this century, as a way of making the choice of candidates more democratic (small d) and of breaking the power of the party bosses.

By the 1950s they were thought of as slightly quaint and old-fashioned. Harry Truman, Adlai Stevenson and Hubert Humphrey all had some contemptuous things to say about them.

The primary was revived by the political charisma of John F. Kennedy, and by the attention his 1960 campaign attracted in the media. Most of all, it was the lush prose of Theodore H. White, in his best-seller, *The Making of the President 1980,* that created a primary.

The two primaries that mattered for Kennedy in 1960 were in Wisconsin and in West Virginia. The great question about Kennedy as candidate was whether the American voters were ready to accept a Roman Catholic president.

The Wisconsin primary was ominous for Kennedy because, although he won, he did well in districts with many Catholics and poorly in the strongly Protestant areas. So Kennedy had no alternative but to campaign frontally on the religious issue in West Virginia, where 95 per cent of the voters were Protestants. He did, he triumphed, and he went on to lay to rest the idea that a Roman Catholic could not lead the country.

For the next 20 years primaries looked like the modern, democratic way to choose delegates to the party conventions'. Compared to caucuses, which were generaly portrayed as sordid, old-fashioned and boss-ridden.

Then along came Jimmy Carter. He had a different point to prove: as a Southerner he needed to show that he could have national as well as merely regional appeal. No one from the Deep South had been president since the Civil War except Lyndon Johnson.

New Hampshire was not promising for Carter, and several of the next primaries in the calendar were in the South and would prove nothing. Yet Carter needed a flying start. So he and his young campaign strategist, Hamilton Jordan, hit on the idea of treating the Iowa precinct caucuses, before the New Hampshire primary, as if they *were* a primary.

Several thousand Democratic loyalists would meet in every precinct in the state and choose their delegates to the convention. Carter quietly met them and put himself across. National newspapers such as the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* reported what he was doing. So when he came and easy first in the precinct caucuses, the television cameras were there to record it as a major political event.

It was the end of 20 years when primaries had been the focus of media attention. After 1960, and especially after 1968, they had grown rapidly in number. The latter years produced perhaps the most exciting primary campaign of all, with both Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy challenging the incumbent President Johnson in the primaries, not to mention Hubert Humphrey, the eventual candidate, who did not run in any primaries, or George Wallace, who ran as a third-party candidate.

After that, the number of states holding primaries grew quickly. There were 23 in 1972, 30 in 1976, and 31 in 1980. Four years ago, many political scientists might have predicted that by the end of the century virtually all convention delegates would be chosen in primaries.

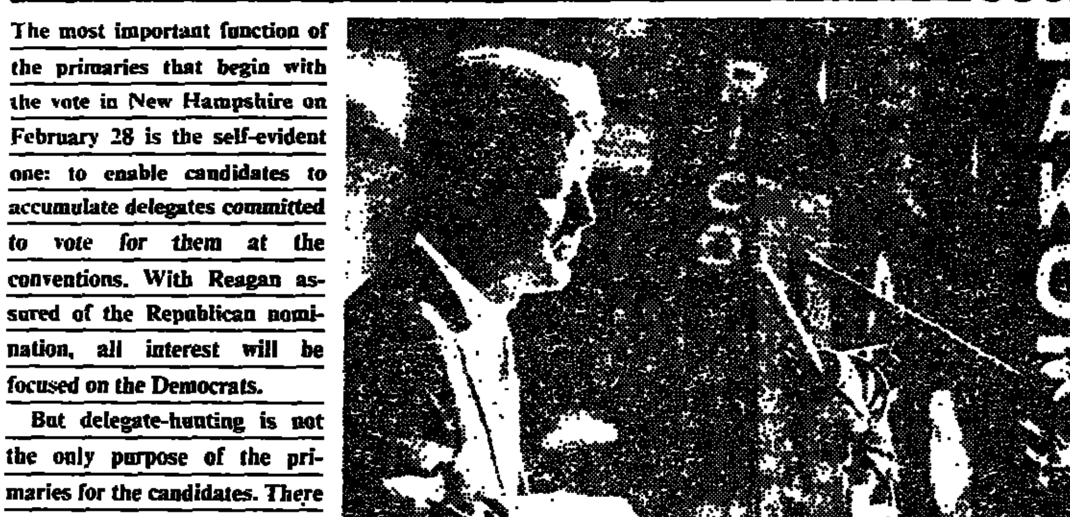
But this year the number of primaries is down, to 26, and the number of caucuses is up, to 25. The number adds up to 51 because the District of Columbia counts as a state for this purpose.

Few caucuses will attract as many participants as the 84,000 who took part in Monday's Iowa decision. At that rate of participation, the difference between a primary and a caucus, once seen as antithetical, had almost withered away. It is just one little example of the influence the media now have on the American political system.

COUNTDOWN TO THE CONVENTIONS

The most important function of the primaries that begin with the vote in New Hampshire on February 28 is the self-evident one: to enable candidates to accumulate delegates committed to vote for them at the conventions. With Reagan assured of the Republican nomination, all interest will be focused on the Democrats.

But delegate-hunting is not the only purpose of the primaries for the candidates. There are plenty of other points to watch in the results between February 28 and the last primaries in California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and West Virginia on June 5.



Primary revival: John Kennedy capturing the Democratic nomination in 1960

Coalitions

The Iowa result would seem to have almost completely eliminated the former astronaut, Senator John Glenn of Ohio, previously thought to be Mondale's strongest rival. However, three liberal condidates, Senator Gary Hart of Colorado, former senator George McGovern of South Dakota, and Senator Alan Cranston of California won 34 per cent of the votes in Iowa against 49 per cent for Mondale.

If two of these candidates were to drop out, the survivor would inherit most of their support. So watch out for coalitions of candidates and for candidates dropping out. If, say McGovern and Cranston were to drop out, leaving Hart as the liberal standard-bearer, Mondale's position would be transformed: instead of being the champion of the left of the party against the conservative Glenn, he would find himself willy-nilly as the more conservative candidate.

Gender gap

Early results will confirm whether or not Reagan is handicapped as much as polls have suggested by the "gender gap". In January 1981, when Reagan became president, 54 per cent of men approved of him, according to the Gallup Poll; late last year his approval rate with men was still running at just over 50 per cent. Women were more likely to disapprove of him then, and they are now far more hostile: only 42 per cent women approved of him in late 1983, as against 48 per cent in early 1981.

The reason for Reagan's unpopularity with women, it appears from the polls, is not so much has attitude to women's issues (although the highly publicized resignation of the woman responsible for reviewing gender-discrimintory legislation in the Justice Department last year was only one of many incidents which have infuriated women's organizations). Women are morely likely to be critical of the President because they oppose the President's military policies, and because many of them have been hurt by the administration's economic policy.

With women forming more than half the electorate, and with the same voting turn-out rate as men, no presidential candidate can afford to ignore them as Reagan has done.

Blacks

No postwar president comes even close to being as unpopular as Reagan with black voters. In 1980 Reagan won only 3 per cent of the more than four million votes cast by blacks in the 11 Southern states. In the past, blacks, especially in the South, have been significantly less likely to register and to vote than whites. In those 11 states Reagan's margin of victory was less than the number of eligible blacks yet to register. But now blacks are registering in large numbers, and their turnout is approaching that of whites. This could be another danger signal for Reagan, whose economic policies have hurt blacks, a predominantly low-income group, and favoured high-income whites.

Predictions

Candidates in primaries (and those caucuses notified by the media) are judged not only in absolute but also in comparative terms: in other words not only by what proportion of the vote they get, but also by whether they have done better or worse than predicted. In 1968, Eugene McCarthy did not win more votes than President Johnson. But the fact that he came so close and did far better than expected helped to put Johnson on the slide that ended with his withdrawal after another disappointing showing in Wisconsin. So how the media report a candidate's performance has a crucial influcene on his standing, and therefore on his ability to continue to raise money for television advertising and other necessary expenditure.

Reform?

In the recent past there has been much criticism of the long drawn-out primary calendar. Critics argue that it favours well-financed candidates and gives them an unfair advantage, and suggest that there should be a single national primary with all states voting on one day. Since that looks impracticable, it has also been suggested that primaries should be grouped together in regional primaries so that, for example, all Southern, Western, or New England states voting on the same day.

MAIN EVENTS

February 28
New Hampshire Primary
Being the first state to hold a primary has been worth so much to New Hampshire, a relatively poor and obscure state, in both publicity and income from spending by candidates and television, that the state legislature has passed a law saying that New Hampshire will always have its primary before anyone else. Now Iowa has blunted New Hampshire's primary. But next week's primary will still be an important test for Mondale and the field.

March 4: *Maine precinct caucuses*
(There have in fact already been precinct caucuses in half a dozen states before Iowa, all involving only Republicans, however.)

March 13: Primaries in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and for democrats abroad
Caucuses in Hawaii, Nevada, Oklahoma, and the state of Washington.
"Fat Tuesday". This will be the first opportunity to sew up large groups of delegates. Altogether 377 Democratic delegates will be chosen in primaries and another 170 in caucuses on the same day; 143 of those will be in Florida and 116 in Massachusetts.

March 14 *Caucuses in Alaska, Delaware, North Dakota*

March 17 *Caucuses in Arkansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi and South Carolina.*
A big northern industrial state with plenty of economic troubles: Michigan with 155 delegates. And a Southern regional group of caucuses with 196 delegates between them.

March 18
Primary in Puerto Rico

March 20
Illinois Primary
Minnesota caucus
Illinois has 194 delegates, the fifth biggest block. It will also be a major test of black voting intentions, having more registered black voters than any other state. The first black candidate in history, the Rev Jesse Jackson, is a native son. Will blacks vote for him or for a white liberal?

March 24
Kansas caucuses

March 25
Montana caucuses

March 27
Connecticut primary

April 3
New York primary,
Wisconsin primary
The second biggest state with 285 delegates. Intense media glare in the national press and network television's hometown. And Wisconsin, where Robert LaFollette helped to introduce the primary, always a classic test of the MidWest's mood.

April 7
Lotisiana primary
Arizona caucuses

April 24
Primaries in Pennsylvania and Vermont
Pennsylvania is the fourth-biggest state, with lots of blacks, lots of ailing "smokestack" industries, lots of union members: good Mondale country.

May 1
Primaries in District of Columbia, Tennessee

May 5
Texas precinct caucuses
Texas primary
The Texas primary is a non-binding "beauty context primary". The caucuses are serious stuff: to choose 200 delegates in the third most populous state where women, blacks and Hispanic-Americans are all asserting themselves, and where they succeeded in electing a Democratic governor in 1982.

REAGAN
MONDALE
Source: Gallup
50 %
45
40
Others & Undecided %
8 11 9 14 13 9 6 5 5 5 11
A M J J A S O N D J F
1983 1984

Run-up: Reagan vs Mondale in the pre-campaign opinion polls

May 7
Colorado precinct caucuses
Will Senator Hart still be alive to pick up 51 home-state votes?

May 8
Primaries in Indiana, Maryland, North Carolina and Ohio
Indiana and Ohio, with 263 delegates between them, would have the makings of a regional mid-western primary if they could get Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin to join them. If Senator Glenn is not grounded by early May this would be ideal territory for a comeback, as these are conservative Democrats.

May 15
Nebraska and Oregon primaries

June 5
Primaries in California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and West Virgina
The number of delegates and the variety of states involved in this fattest of Tuesdays makes it a sort of shadow national primary. Altogether the states voting on June 5 will send 558 delegates to San Francisco, 345 of them from California, the Golden State, alone.

After the California primary, the various states will still have to choose "unpledged" delegates. These are 566 party officials, and senators or congressmen who are being chosen separetly this year. This is to put right the consequences of the attempt to democratize the party by the McGovern commission in 1971.

As a result of efforts to improve representation of blacks, women and young people at the 1972 convention, many leading party figures, including Mayor Daley of Chicago and important union leaders, found they were not delegates. The effects were extremely divisive. This year the party is seeking to heal the old split between professionals and activists.

July 16
Democratic convention opens in San Francisco.

August 20
Republican convention opens in Dallas.

A revised edition of Godfrey Hodgson's book on the American presidency, All Things to All Men, *is to be published by Penguin this summer.*

THE CANDIDATES

Walter Mondale | **John Glenn** | **Gary Hart** | **George McGovern** | **Ernest Hollings** | **Jesse Jackson** | **Alan Cranston** | **Reubin Askew**

moreover . . . **Miles Kington**

Willst be discreet, not standing with the light behind?

You may have read in the newspapers that Prince Andrew has got a new girl friend. you probably thought to yourself at the time: I see that Prince Andrew has got a new girl friend. Or perhaps you thought: I wonder if there's any proper news in this damned newspaper. What you almost certainly didn't realize is that behind such a brief announcement lies an exhausting amount of royal ritual and ceremony, which must always take place the same way.

It starts with the age-old exchange between prince and proposed girl friend, which goes like this.

Prince: Willst thou be my girl friend?
Girl: I willst.
Prince: Dost promise to be discreet? To smile at the press? Not to stand around in thin dresses with the light behind?
Girl: I dost.
Prince: Canst come and see my Mum some time next week?
Girl: Canst.
Prince: I now pronounce us prince and girl friend.
Girl: What about the bit about my not seeing your letters to the press?
Prince: There won't be any letters. I've learnt my lesson.

The prince then takes his new girl friend to see his mother a the Palace. There is a rather touching ceremony at the entrance.

Guard: Who goes there?
Prince: The prince.
Guard: The prince and who?
Prince: The prince's girl friend.
Guard: Advance, girl friend, and be recognized.
Prince: She's new, actually.
Guard: Blimey, its all go round here.

The prince will then take his friend upstairs, unless this takes place at Sandringham, in which case they shall both don gum boots and go out into the kitchen garden or stables. Leading the girl friend by the hand, the prince shall then say:–

Prince: Hello, Mum, this is *(Here he shall use her name)* . . . .
Queen: I am pleased to meet you. How long have you been doing this sort of thing?
Prince: Mum! Please – we're not touring a factory now. Where's Dad?
Queen: I believe he's writing an introduction for a book about wild life.
Prince: That's the spirit. Well, I'm just going to take *(here he shall use her name again)* for a spin in a helicopter.
Queen: Don't be late for dinner. Charles and Spike Milligan are dropping in again.

The prince shall then take the girl friend up in a helicopter loaned by the R.N. where he shall turn to her and say:

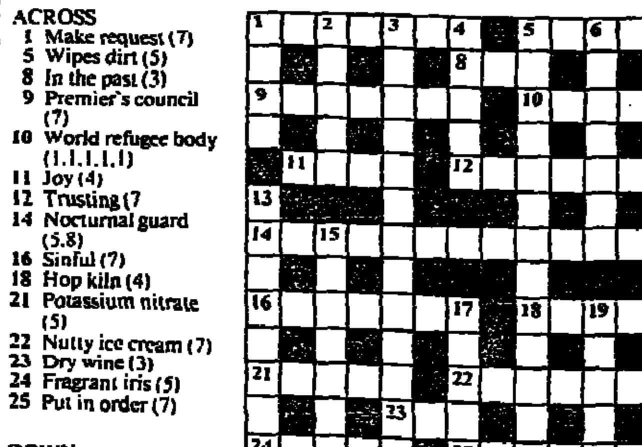
Prince: I think she really liked you. You could tell by the way she let you help brush the dogs. Do you see those people in the potato field down there? They're photographers from the *Sun*. Did you know the *Sun* has more people covering Sandringham than the rest of the world put together? So Dad says.
Girl: I'm sorry – I can see your lips moving, but I can't hear a single word in this helicopter.
Prince: What?

The final part of the ceremony is known as Meeting the Press. This takes place outside the girl friend's home at 8.15 am, as she leaves for work. When she opens the door, the press shall say:–

Press: Blimey, girl, you took us by surprise, can you just go in again and then come out once more? Big smile, that's the way, lots of happiness, this is your big day, going out with the Prince and all that, hold it! Look this way, look that way, look this way again, come on love, you play ball with us and we'll play ball with, what's he like then, have you met the Queen, is it wedding bells, just one more, that's it, now one more for luck.
Girl: Goodness – is it always like this?
Press: 'Fraid so, love.

The girl friend then goes to work looking very thoughtful, reflecting that it's all going to be harder work than she thought, but that at least she's going to get the chance to meet in person people like Spike Milligan.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 276)



ACROSS
1 Make request (7)
5 Wipes dirt (5)
8 In the past (3)
9 Premier's council (7)
10 World refugee body (1,1,1,1,1,1)
11 Joy (4)
12 Trusting (7
14 Nocturnal guard (5,8)
16 Sinful (7)
18 Hop kiln (4)
21 Potassium nitrate (5)
22 Nutty ice cream (7)
23 Dry wine (3)
24 Fragrant iris (5)
25 Put in order (7)

DOWN
1 Ill (4)
2 Written defamation (5)
3 Vanity (13)
4 Genghis Khan's tribe (5)
5 Betrayer (6,7)
6 Scornful language (7)
7 Knobbly silk (8)
13 Insinuation (8)
15 Joker (7)
17 Lance-leaved lily (5)
19 Espana (5)
20 Detest (4)

SOLUTION TO No 275
ACROSS: 1 Myopic 5 Hereby 8 Orb 9 Garter 10 Otiose 11 Otto 12 Cub scout 14 Quartermaster 17 Alti tude 19 Ibex 21 Addend 23 Tuareg 24 Ear 25 Uniter 26 Oleate
DOWN: 2 Yeast 3 Pot pourri 4 Coracle 5 H Bomb 6 Roi 7 Bascule 13 Castigate 15 Unladen 16 Maestro 18 Udder 20 Event 22 ECT

FRIDAY PAGE

Not drinking can be the devil

COMMENT

George Orwell was really warning us about the TEEtotalitarian state – for the last few weeks it has hardly been possible to switch on the television set, or open a newspaper, without coming across someone discussing his or her drink problem.

I used to think that as long as you could walk straight 95 per cent of the time, there was no need to worry. Now, apparently there is a whole new drink theory. It all depends on how frequently you drink rather than on whether you are drunk or sober. If people think they have a drink problem, why don't they give up completely? Counting the glasses like calories is surely the quickest way to a neurotic obsession with the stuff. The answer, of course, is that not drinking *at all* is a serious social handicap.

I have been married to a teetotaller for nine years, and even people who knew my husband long before he met me still ask him, "don't you ever drink?" They don't say that to non-smokers. Other manifestations of a virtuous lifestyle, such as jogging, giving up fags, doing aerobics, meet with approval.

My husband usually causes far more inconvenience at a social gathering than any drunk. Dinner-party hosts tooled up to produce any cocktail known to man are thrown by a request for water, or something soft. "You can't just have that", they say, commandeering the kids' squash or coke and decking it out in ice-lemon and a cherry to look "grown up"." Dinner is half an hour late while a search party is sent out for the Perrier.

My husband doesn't drink, because he doesn't like the taste of alcohol and can live happily without the effect. People find this hard to fathom. "Why, don't you approve?" they ask aggressively. The other favourite question is, "Is it for medical reasons?" I have discovered that there are all kinds of unmentionable diseases for which the cure involves temporary abstinence from the bottle. Then there is the scientific research, apparently reported in all the newspapers, which proves that people who drink live longer then those who don't.

The admission that he is both a teetotaller and a Fleet Street journalist usually produces the biggest laugh of all – clearly it is a self-imposed penalty after a youth misspent on the floor of El Vino's. He only ever goes there to pick me up, of course.

Not drinking can cut you off from other people – the social fabric of life is steeped in booze. So is the language. "Come and have a drink" rarely has anything to do with thirst. It is usually an excuse for a bit of intrigue and gossip out of office. Occasionally it seems "I am thinking of firing you", perhaps that is why my beloved has remained in gainful employment for so long. Even more occasionally it means, "I am thinking of promoting you" – alas we seem likely never to know.

When we first got married he went to parties with me. Now he usually stays for half an hour then goes and leaves me to enjoy myself while he looks for somewhere to sit and watch *Match of the Day*. Ironically, usually the nearest pub.

Maggie Drummond

Derek Mitchell on the breaking of a legal link between physiotherapists and massage parlours

Cleaning up the Act

This week Stanley Cosby, a physiotherapist for 40 years, was prosecuted for refusing to purchase a £68 licence from Lambeth Council in London. Camberwell Green magistrates dismissed the case and awarded defence costs. In doing so, they may well have opened the floodgates on claims for rebates of fees paid by physiotherapists since 1920.

The reason is that the licence Mr Cosby refused to buy was introduced under the London County Council (General Powers) Act of 1920, which was intended, among other things, to strengthen earlier laws governing the spread of sleazy massage parlours in the West End. Gradually, London boroughs classified physiotherapists' private practices in the same category as the massage parlours and exacted an annual fee.

In court on Tuesday, Mr Cosby, a state registered physiotherapist, protested that the Act related not to his profession, but to brothel-keepers. He had been charged with conducting "massage and special treatment" without a licence at his surgery in Streatham, south London, but he argued that modern massage was performed by beauticians and other more dubious individuals, not physiotherapists.

Magistrates' rulings do not constitute precedents in law, but Mr Cosby's victory means tha other, similar prosecutions are unlikely to go ahead. And there is the real possibility that some boroughs will now face claims for licence fee rebates from physiotherapists.

Things have changed since the Chinese first employed massage 3,000 years ago. It was still deemed well above board 1,000 years later when Hippocrates, the father of medicine, was kneading the good people of Cos to relieve ailments ranging from sprains and dislocations to constipation.

Such treatment was slow to reach these shores. The word "massage" did not creep into the English vocabulary until 1876. And it was the turn of the century before the Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics was formed.

The term "medical gymnastics" was quickly modified to "physical therapy" and later to "physiotherapy". But the word "massage" was open to wider interpretation. While massage in its purest form was growing as a method of treating the needy, the same label was being used to mask the services of the seedy.

While helping to frame the 1920 Act, James Ollis, chief officer of the public control department of the London County Council, sought tighter controls on massage parlours.

In a confidential submission to the council's public control committee in July, 1919, he said: At a recent visit to a registered premises, the inspector found one of the assistants most improperly and inadequately dressed. She was wearing a long overall and the texture of this overall was such as to show that she was wearing no underskirt. Moreover, the lower buttons of the overall were unfastened and revealed orange coloured knickers underneath.

"She was engaged at the time in giving body massage to a male patient and the door of the room was fastened."

The committee members heeded his words and decided to beef up the existing Act. A report to the council in October, 1919, said: "As a result of four years' experience in the administration of Part V (Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment) of the LCC (General Powers) Act 1915, we have come to the conclusion that the council's existing powers of control are not sufficiently stringent to effect the suppression of the serious social evil attached to so many West End massage parlours."

Six months later, Mr Ollis was to tell a select committee: "There are women who advertise their registered establishments in a certain way, namely 'Scotch', 'English' or 'French masseurs', or frequently giving christian names of assistants, all in such a way as to attract to the premises people who do not want to go there for legitimate massage treatment."

On Tuesday, Maurice Guymer, chief magistrate, took the view that Mr Cosby's practice, which attracts an exclusive international clientele, did not fall within the scope of the Act.

So why did Lambeth council prosecute? Timothy Nunn, of the council's legal department, was at pains to point out before Tuesday's hearing: "Mr Cosby is a very nice man. There is no suggestion that he is doing anything unprofessional or improper. It is just that he needs a licence to operate."

Mr Nunn is a nice man too. He is also an extremely industrious one. Even while he was preparing the prosecution case against Mr Cosby, he was working on a draft of a new General Powers Bill.

That Bill is currently before Parliament. Its effect, if passed, will be to exempt from licensing any practitioner included in the Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act of 1960. Ironically, those professions include physiotherapy.



Stanley Cosby: his case may result in claims for rebates from physiotherapists

MEDICAL BRIEFING

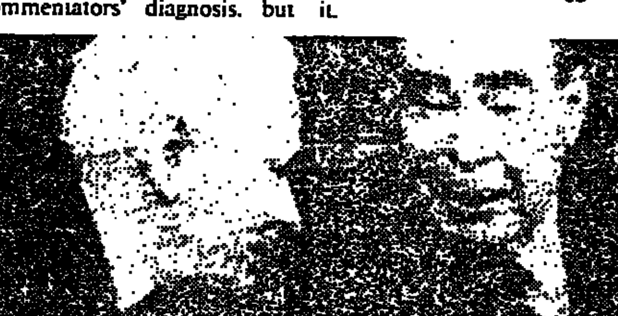
Breathless speculation

Kremlin watchers have diagnosed Mr Chernenko's shortness of breath and persistent cough as being due to chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Chronic bronchitis results from the persistent inflammation of the tubes leading to the lungs so that the tubes often become clogged with pus and mucus. Airway obstruction is further increased by spasm in the wall of the tubes. Emphysema, which causes symptoms in 15 per cent of elderly men, is the term used to describe the breakdown of the walls between the sacs in spongy lung tissue, so that the airspaces, the holes in the sponge, become enlarged with a consequent reduction in the lung surface available for taking up oxygen from the atmosphere.

Few would argue with the likelihood of the television commentators' diagnosis, but their estimates of its effect on Mr Chernenko's life span, must, without access to the results of lung function tests, be absolutely meaningless: with such tests the influence of lung disease on life expectancy can be forecast with reasonable accuracy.

As Mr Chernenko is 72, chronic chest disease, with the possible risk that it may lead to heart failure, is only one of the many considerations which would have to be taken into account when assessing probable longevity.

Those who watched Mr Andropov's funeral may have been misled as to the true extent of his successor's breathlessness, for, as the Russian leader is known to have a profound dislike for public speaking, the tension and anxiety induced by this occasion would exaggerate it.



Chernenko (left): public speaking will heighten his bronchitis

Acne help



The Conservative Whips Office used to recommend a particularly skilful photographer who could be guaranteed to touch up a portrait of the most acne-scarred face so that it could smile healthily from 2,000 election posters. In the Chesterfield by-election Mr Giancarlo Piccaro decided that, whatever its effect on the ballot box, he is going to parade his spots. He says he is standing to draw attention to the plight of fellow sufferers and the very little that medicine can do for them.

Mr Piccaro's motive is worthy but his facts are wrong. Dr W. J. Cunliffe in a review in Mims Magazine, *insists that acne can and should be helped, although the treatment may take many months. He suggests that failure is often because the patient becomes discouraged by lack of immediate success.*

Successful treatment in mild cases can usually be achieved by applying creams, gels or lotions; more severe cases may need long-term antibiotics, or in some women, hormone therapy. Finally, in the worst cases, retinoid preparations can be given, but these drugs have severe side effects and their prescription should be limited to hospital practice.

Words of comfort

Last week Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, launched a new system for transferring the spoken word into print. Known as the Palantype Computer Transcription System, it has been developed by a charity, Possum Controls, with the help of the Universities of Southampton and Dundee from an idea of Mrs Pauline Ashley, wife of Mr Jack Ashley, the deaf MP.

For years after Mr Ashley went deaf he followed debates by lip-reading, or through notes passed by fellow members. Seated in the House of Commons one day, Mrs Ashley, who had been worried for some time by the strain this caused, looked at the press gallery and had the idea that if a BBC reporter's shorthand notebook could be filmed and then shown on a screen beside her husband on the benches, he could follow everything.

This project failed as no two reporters' shorthand was the same. But the idea was developed by utilizing computers and adapting an automatic shorthand machine, the palantype. The words are transmitted from the press gallery to a very small visual display unit beside Mr Ashley.

It is hoped the new system will revolutionize opportunities for the deaf.

Goats' milk caution

Drinking goats' milk has become fashionable among commune dwellers and the alternative society, but before the war it was the traditional, obsessional doctors who gave it to their children because it was reported to be less likely to be infected.

But production and distribution of cows' milk is now so safeguarded by regulations that it is very unlikely to carry any infection. Surprisingly, these regulations do not apply to goats' milk.

A leading article in this week's British Medical Journal *by Dr L. S. Taitz and Mr B. L. Armitage from Sheffield University, attacks this lack of control, deplores the advice given by goat breeders and warns parents of the damage of giving children goats milk that is unpasteurized, undiluted or unenriched with vitamins.*

Dr Thomas Stuttaford



THE TIMES DIARY

Leaders and laggards

Much interest has been aroused by the result of the Marplan opinion poll, published in *The Guardian* yesterday, which gives Labour a 1 per cent lead over the Conservatives. This seems to show the Tories have taken a sudden dive, since just a week ago a Gallup poll in the *Daily Telegraph* gave them a 9½ per cent lead over Kinnock's men. There is much talk of banana skins: the GCHQ imbroglio, Mark Thatcher's business affairs, the *Panorama* report on right-wing infiltration, and so on. But the small print tells a different story. The acute observer will note that Gallup (Tories 43, Labour 33½) and Marplan (Tories 39, Labour 40) carried out their surveys at precisely the same time, between February 8 and 13 – apparently it takes Marplan a week longer to process the data. Which seems to tell us rather more about opinion polls than about the state of the parties.

Talk of polls leads naturally to the by-election, and John Connell, chairman of the Noise Abatement Society, wishes to make it known he is not the Peace candidate John Connell at Chesterfield. It seems both want a quiet life, but in different ways.

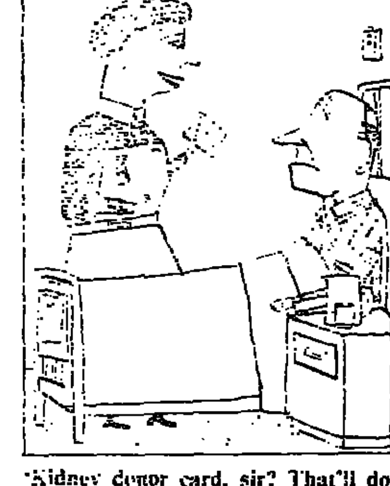
Cover . . .

James Haswell, the insurance ombudsman, has personal experience of the confusing jargon in insurance companies' proposal and claim forms, about which he complains in a report this week. Haswell says he had to telephone his car insurers to find out what they meant by one question when he was renewing his policy. On another tack, from the complaints he dealt with last year, he offers the following guidance: "Putting one's foot through the ceiling of one's house is not damage by animal impact."

. . . stories

From Lloyd's, meanwhile, comes the tale of a broker's novel method of insuring his luxury home and contents. He gets a Lloyd's underwriter to accept the risk for a premium of £1,100 then "forgets" to enter details of the transaction. This ensures that in a trouble-free year he pays nothing for his cover. If, however, he incurs a loss of more than £1,100, he immediately pays the premium and then claims. He has been doing this for years, but, alas, all good things come to an end. Although the gentleman doesn't know it yet, he has been rumbled.

BARRY FANTONI



'Kidney donor card, sir? That'll do nicely'

More like bunkum

Winston Churchill's wartime bunker will clearly be London's star tourist attraction this year. Outside the bunker entrance at the corner of King Charles Street near Clive Steps, a serpentine sequence of nine low stone walls is being built on the pavement for the purpose of controlling the crowds expected to file through the war rooms and Churchill's private office and bedroom. The refurbished bunker, on which some £2m has been spent, is due to open on April 6. Visitors hoping to sense Churchill's shade, however, may be disappointed: Only 115 of the 1,125 meetings of the War Cabinet were held in the bunker, and as far as researchers can determine, the great man actually slept there just three times.

"Sir Edward Elgar", the BR locomotive to be ceremonially named tomorrow, is a reincarnation, it seems. Jeremy Clarke, of Chislehurst, tells me the Western Region engine "Lamphey Castle" was renamed "Sir Edward Elgar" in 1957 to mark the centenary of the composer's birth. That was back in the steam age, of course.

Royal runner-up

Sought after by two octogenarian great ladies, the composer Carl Davis has had to cancel a date with one of them. He was to have appeared before the Queen Mother next week at the Odeon, Leicester Square, for the first public performance of his score for the film *Champions*, the true story of jockey Bob Champion's battle against cancer. Then came a summons from the actress Lilian Gish for Davis personally to conduct his music for a sequence from *Way Down East*, to be shown at an American Film Institute ceremony for Gish in Hollywood next Thursday. Davis, who wrote the accompaniments for the Gish films *Broken Blossoms* and *The Wind*, shown in Britain last autumn, chose Hollywood. "It's time the Americans got a glimpse of what we're doing with silent films," he said. Unfortunately, he recently slipped a disc and has had to put the finishing touches to his music in bed, "like a crab turned on its back". Ah, the price of fame.

PHS

Edward Norman on the state's bequest to the modern church: democracy, collectivism, secularism – and bureacracy

Four wrong roads to God

Christianity has always taught that the state is a divine institution, whether it is pagan, as in the first centuries of Christianity, or is related to Christianity, as in most of European history subsequently. It is an odd feature of contemporary church life in Britain that its leaders, noted for declaiming a conviction that Christianity must be involved with politics to express the Founder's insistence on love of neighbour, are sceptical, to say the least, about identifying the modern British state as a divine institution.

To do so would doubtless offend against their acceptance of social pluralism and their desire to appear as critics of the existing economic order. It would remind them also of something they would evidently rather forget – the long history of Christian support for traditional social authority. The modern church sees itself as a church of the poor, as a yeast to leaven social opinion, as a conscience to which the world can turn when it seeks a moral view of its purposes. It does not any longer regard itself as the spiritual dimension of the state, as the organized basis of the state's moral sense.

There is a paradox, however. Although the state has continued to advance into something approaching real secularism, the churches, while articulating their distance from it, are actually as closely related to the values and practices of government as they have been in the past.

The modern state in Britain may be characterized under four descriptions: democratic and representative; bureaucratic; collectivist; and secular. The churches have absorbed the ideals and practices of each of these. The overall result is a quite extraordinary harmony between the ideals and practices of the churches and the practices of the state and government.

Modern churchmen see themselves as "challenging" the modern state over some of its policies – over immigration or nationality laws, for example, or over the level of financial aid to the developing world. In reality these "challenges" tend to derive from piecemeal political objections to individual acts of particular parties within government, and amount to little more than a partisan involvement in the operation of the constitution.

The extent to which the church has associated itself with the democratic process is revealed in the sympathy shown by Christian bodies in England for overseas revolutionary movements seeking what are contended to be "democratic" systems of government. It was revealed, more closely perhaps, in the vote at the November 1983 session of the General Synod of the Church of England in favour of proportional representation (reaffirming a previous vote of 1978). There may be many good reasons for the nation to adopt proportional representation for its elections, but it must be difficult for anyone outside the church to see what special insights of the Gospel distil into this constitutional refinement.

In the synods it is the influence of the episcopate which has most suffered – effective powers of decision now usually going, not to the assembled laity or the lower clergy, but to the new bureaucracy attached to the permanent offices of the General Synod. The whole emergent pattern exactly parallels the country's secular political arrangements.

The bureaucratization of the churches is a development closely related to governmental changes. There are two major differences, however. First, the machinery of state has expanded with the growth of the state itself in its spheres of responsibility and action. The machinery of the church, on the other hand, has grown at a time when the church has been in noticeable decline, and when its area of social action has radically diminished as the state has succeeded to its former functions.

The second difference is economic. Quite a large area of state expansion has occurred around the agencies of financial administration; but much of the Church of England's finance is in the hands of a state body, the Church Commissioners, and the accumulation of ecclesiastical bureaucracy has not especially reflected the need to coordinate financial enterprise.

Bureaucracies have grown through their own internal expansion, in a classic model of existing staff promoting the case for the growth of their own activity. Although bishops head the leading boards of the General Synod, and are the central figures on the committees which manage other sections of the bureaucracy, their real powers are small.

There has grown up, and that quite rapidly, a class of Anglican administrators – with counterparts in the other churches and in the British Council of Churches – who exercise enormous influence, but whose relationship to the General Synod, in the sense of being under its effective direction, is slight.

It is scarcely an exaggeration to say that for the last 10 years the agenda of the church has been set, and the atmosphere in which it has undertaken its tasks contrived, by a small body of permanent officials in the central agencies of the ecclesiastical bureaucracy.

One of the signs of this – and it pervades the entire church today – is a preference for pragmatism rather than principle as the basis of collective action. In one sense this is merely a continuation of the long English tradition of empiricism in political management, of a liking for policy founded upon expediency rather than articulated ideology. But it is rather more than that because the church is also self-conscious of itself as the progenitor of a moral and spiritual dimension in public life.

The claim made by contemporary churchmen to offer a critique of the action of the state in what are deemed "moral" areas of public life rests solely on the supposition that their critique is derived from the principles rather than from expediency. In expediency they can lay no special claim to expertise or insight. Yet in nearly all the major areas of social action with which Christianity has concerned itself over recent decades (and in many purely religious issues too), the church has acted in a pragmatic way to avoid internal disruption.

Examples are particularly thick on the ground in the area to which the church used once to bring clear insights – matters of personal sexual morality or the marriage discipline. Thus the church formally condemns divorce, but in the later 1960s took a prominent part in advising the government about divorce legislation. It is at present embroiled in the problem of the remarriage of the divorced, but its own canons logically prohibit any such violation of the principle of indissoluble marriage.

It is a method picked up from the modern practices of secular government, where "middle-ground" solutions, appeasement, and the avoidance of principled action are the stock-in-trade of those who also declaim high principles but avoid pressing them as a basis of action.

Collectivism is the third feature of the modern state I have identified. Here the most striking aspect of the churches' response is an adhesion to the ideology of collectivism; to the expression of moral concern in collective terms; to the equating of religion with communal action for social justice and social "compassion".

This is the sense in which it may be said that contemporary Christianity is becoming "politicized" – not because the British churches are particularly characterized by direct involvement with party politics (indeed, they are not) but because of the identification that is made between essential Christianity and collective concepts of moral responsibility, as applied to the conduct of the modern liberal state.

The modern church is scornful of individualism; hence its distrust of the present Conservative government. The experts in the bureaucracy and the bishops have characterized the present political leaders as exponents of individualism and critics of collectivism (which in a limited sense they are).

Examination of the secular qualities of the modern British state presents a sort of summary of some of the preceding features. For the churches have been undergoing a process of internal secularization, brought about by their own action, and there can be no doubt that their purpose in this is a desire to adjust to contemporary society.

It must be emphasized that the state is in all essentials secular. Many churchmen – and the Archbishop of Canterbury, in his recently-published collection of addresses (called *Windows on to God*) shows that he is among them – cling to surviving evidences of the formal establishment of the Church of England as proofs that the state is not yet secularized. They see a popular yearning for some kind of religious presence in public life and believe that, provided care is taken to achieve an equitable balance between the denominations, the *churches will continue to minister* to the state in some direct sense.

But by almost all the tests that can be applied to show the existence of confessional principles at work within political society, and in the operation of the constitution, the British experience at the present time shows itself to be secular. The key test is not the formal constitutional survival of a state church, but whether it is allowed a religious role in the political fabric. The Church of England clearly is not.

Parliament no longer consults the church when legislating on even the most obvious "moral" issues. The presence of the bishops in the House of Lords might be regarded as a form of consultation, but in practice the bishops do not act in the Lords as spokesmen for the church and for Christian morality. They speak as individuals.

These then, are four characteristics of the modern state which are moulding the identity and describing the practice of the churches: democratic, bureaucratic, collectivist, and secular. The end result is a tendency for the churches to act more as moral agencies and propagandists for social reform than as the authentic vehicles of spiritual mysteries. This may also be a key to their continued decline. Many people simply do not find churches religious enough.

There is a general inclination to describe the nature of religion in terms of attainable ends. The modern collectivist state is all about salvation now. It is about contriving satisfaction in the lives of men through structural action to remove uncertainty and deprivation.

People expect religion to do something for them. They want it to give meaning to their lives, or to save them from depression, or to provide a fellowship or a sense of service. What is lacking is transcendance for its own sake, as a necessary feature of existence, and an impression of the awful majesty of God.

The author is Dean of Peterhouse, Cambridge. This is an extract from his LSE Suntory-Toyota lecture delivered in London last night.

David Watt

When morality and Mammon collide

Last weekend the negotiations that have been going on between South Africa and Mozambique since the end of last year reached their climax in an orgy of satisfaction, if not goodwill, all round. This agreement represents (whether western liberals like it or not) the triumph of South African external policy in the last five years. The expedient of "destabilizing" the front-line states has already worked in practice in the case of Zimbabwe and is now, apparently, bringing about at least a limited détente between South Africa and Angola. The Mozambique affair makes the victory explicit. It is now shown, for all to see, that ideology gives way to power. These countries cannot escape from the strong gravitational pull of the South African sphere of economic and military influence and are therefore obliged, for the moment at any rate, to seek some kind of accommodation if they do not wish to pay an unacceptable price in penury and/or political disruption.

This is a genuinely significant development because it blocks for an indefinite period one of the main paths to change in South Africa itself. If immediate external pressure is now so easily checkmated, then, for blacks, the only hope of altering the balance of power lies in domestic resistance and eventually domestic violence. For the white South African the comfortable (and almost certainly delusive) moral will probably be drawn that there is now a virtually infinite period of time available for slow, peaceful change, or for no basic change at all.

For western governments the dilemma is now quite acute. What *are* we to do about South Africa? In the long run our interests are quite clear. They are, to put it brutally, that our trade and investment in South Africa should prosper but not at the expense of our even more valuable trade and investment in black Africa and in the rest of the Commonwealth. This implies that developments in South Africa should be such that (a) the even tenor of economic intercourse should not be interrupted by holocausts, bloodbaths and the like and (b) that we should not be obliged by UN resolutions and other pressures devised in black Africa to cut off economic links with South Africa on pain, say, of finding that all our assets in Nigeria are nationalized.

These requirements, fortunately, concide to some extent with morality, for the only hope of avoiding having to choose between black Africa and white lies in the kind of progress towards racial equality that will avert an eventual tragedy in South Africa and also appease the pressure of the other African states. Instinct and interest both point therefore to a policy that will bring pressure for change to bear on the South African government. The difficult question, of course, is how much pressure.

On this point I find that opinion in South Africa itself has shifted quite significantly in the last four years. Black radicals still demand total economic sanctions by the West, irrespective of the consequences for their own people. But I sense that this enthusiasm is not quite so widespread as it was. Perhaps as wealth has spread, even to a very limited extent, in the non-white communities, these feel they have more to lose. The attitude of white liberals has also been modified – in this case mainly by the vivid demonstration in the case of Rhodesia of how incredibly difficult it is to make a trade boycott effective even in the case of a relatively unimportant economy (which of course South Africa's is not).

Certainly it seems clear that in mounting a global attack on the South African economy we should not only be weakening one of the possible forces for change in the country, but we should be attacking the South African government at one of its strongest points. The weak spot in the South African armour is not economic but psychological – the enormous longing, particularly among English-speaking whites, but also among Afrikaners – to be accepted as legitimate members of the civilized western world, and to evade the proposition that apartheid debars them from this category. It is this desire that accounts for the



Pik Botha, South African Foreign Minister: his policy has paid off

passionate denunciations that the visitor constantly receives of the sports boycott. The truth is that this is one of the most effective weapons we possess, for not only does it hurt deeply but it cannot, by definition, be satisfactorily dodged as the arms boycott can, by the development of a domestic industry. It has already deracialized South African sport at the top, and, if it can be made to hold, may eventually do the same in schools.

To say this, of course, is to confess to a relatively high degree of impotence on the grand scale, and the question naturally arises what European companies can do at factory and office level to help. The EEC and Sullivan codes of behaviour for foreign firms are under a cloud at present. The trouble is that they concentrate heavily on pay rather than on training and promotion prospects; and their main effect has been to increase unemployment during the recession, by pricing blacks out of jobs. Is is also a malign paradox that many big British companies see no milage either in doing more to help blacks or drawing attention to their virtue in this respect, for by doing so they merely remind the world of the very fact that causes them bad publicity – namely their presence in South Africa in the first place.

It is here, in my judgment, that we are at fault and South African accusations of hypocrisy are justified. It is admittedly hard to see a satisfactory substitute for our present Pecksniffian offical policy of high moral disapproval and naked self-interest; it is, after all, in essence the policy of Mr Mugabe and President Machel. Nevertheless most British people go even further and, having pronounced an easy anathema upon South Africa, want the luxury of not having to think about it at all. This is an error, and not just a moral one. We are present in South Africa for better or worse and we are therefore obliged, in a sense, to share its problems, if only to protect our investment. We cannot do a great deal to bring about change in South Africa but we have an interest as well as a duty to do the most we possibly can: and if that forces us to face some unpleasant realities about our moral position, so be it.

Behind the barricades: a Mediterranean mix of vin and violence

Paris

Industrial disputes and other forms of social unrest in France tend to be dramatic, colourful and often violent. They provide good news material, especially for television, as this week's road blockade by lorry drivers and the recent farmers' protests have shown.

But the French are used to a much higher level of aggression, both physical and verbal, than the British. They also tolerate a violation of the law in certain situations, such as industrial disputes, which we find shocking, particularly when we see the police fraternizing with the lawbreakers, sharing their sandwiches, drinking their wine, warming themselves by their fires.

For years, farmers have stormed local government buildings and ransacked offices, hijacked lorries and dumped their contents on the roadside, and set up barricades across main roads and railway lines. Rarely do the police intervene, because they know that to do so would only make matters worse. Almost never are any charges brought or sanctions imposed.

The police seem much more ready, indeed all too eager, to intervene, in street marches and demonstrations. They are a frighteningly provocative sight as they stand in their massed ranks on street corners, inhuman behind their visored helmets and riot shields, bristling with guns, batons, and teargas grenade launchers, which almost invariably will be used. But, without being over-cynical, it is almost a prerequisite of a successful demonstration that there is a clash with the police, for that ensures publicity for the cause.

We British tend to be overimpressed by such events because they are not the British way of doing things. But for the French they are an accepted part of their way of life and history; it does not mean that revolution is round the corner, though some may speak as if it were. It has something more to do with the fine balance between French anarchic individualism, *chacun pour soi*, and their acceptance of a strong authoritarian state which is held ultimately responsible for everything.

One reason for the violence of so many industrial protests in France lies, ironically, in the very weakness of the unions. By contrast to their British counterparts, French unions are poor, badly organized, and often out of touch with their rank and file. Only a fifth of French workers are unionized and strike pay is virtually non-existent. Workers cannot therefore afford to indulge in long disputes. They have to exert a different form of pressure. That is why they tend to go in for the short, sharp shock.

As it struggles to cope with France's worst economic crisis since the war, the present Socialist government may seem to be lurching from one industrial dispute to another. But such disputes often last only a few days or even a couple of hours. Only 1.6 million days were lost because of strikes in France last year, less than a third of the number in Britain with roughly the same size of workforce.

Many aspects of French life seem more violent than in Britain. Behaviour on the roads is one notorious example. French drivers will push and carve you up in an incredible display of aggression. If you protest the offending driver is liable to leap out of his car, pound his fist against your window and hurl abuse. There are regular reports of drivers being shot.

Virtually everyone seems to own a shotgun because *la chasse* (which means killing virtually anything that moves) is a popular sport in France. That gun is then all too easily used for alternative purposes. Like shooting indiscriminately at children playing at the foot of a block of council flats because they are making too much noise; or shooting demonstrators who are blocking your way, as happened at a lorry drivers' blockade outside Paris earlier this week; or shooting blindly into the dark from your home at a suspected intruder, an act of "self-defence" which is condoned under French law in certain, fairly widely interpreted, circumstances.

The fact that France has the second highest rate of alcohol consumption in the world (after Luxembourg), and nearly three times the rate in Britain, helps explain the high level of aggression, particularly in the cities. One in ten of the population is described medically as an excessive drinker, and the rate is much higher among men.

And yet, the casual tourist to France sees relatively few real drunks, certainly no more than in any other country. The French, with the cafe bars and brasseries open all day and late into the night, do not go in for the heavy, incapacitating drinking bouts that the British, with their severely restricted pub licencing hours, tend to do. In France, drinking begins at breakfast time and continues at regular intervals throughout the day at a level which is containable for the purposes of fairly routine work but which can easily produce an explosive outburst under the slightest provocation.

Some say that every nation has its own form of violence. The French, for example, are appalled by British football hooliganism, punk gang violence, and our apparent propensity for mass murders like those committed by the Yorkshire Ripper.

Professor Gérard Vincent, sociologist and historian at the Institut des Sciences Polytechiques in Paris, says that French society functions within a framework of what he calls contained violence. "Certain behaviour may appear very violent, but it is actually being conducted according to a specific, subtle code," he says. "In a dispute such as the truckers, there is a consensus on the rules that have to be followed. Each side knows how far it can go. We are not British: we are a Mediterranean people with a Latin temperament and we have a higher limited tolerance of aggression and violence."

But how does one tell when that unwritten code has been breached in a way that becomes unacceptable and threatening to society? Social and industrial unrest tends to go in waves, and France seems to be going through one of those waves at the moment: the car workers at the beginning of the year, the farmers, public sector workers and parents of pupils in private schools, now the truckers and the miners, who last week held their first national strike in 21 years, though only for 48 hours. Tomorrow it will be the steelworkers, and all the other groups whose jobs are being threatened.

For the moment, however, the students – that supposed barometer of the national mood – are quiet and have been since last summer. The various protest movements are largely unrelated and there seems nothing to bring them together into a more potent force. The unions are disunited, and most of them, for all their grievances, know that if they push too hard they are liable to topple a government which, if unpopular, is at least preferable to a right-wing administration.

Diana Geddes

Philip Howard

The dicey nature of precedence

We are at sixes and sevens with our quincentenaries this year. Quingentenary is the word preferred by etymological purists; but analogy insists on "cent" coming in somewhere. The College of Arms is about to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the heralds' first incorporation by royal charter of Richard III, and is already making territorial claims on our envelopes with its commemorative stamp. It may be trendy to sneer at the heralds as guardians of useless and snobbish lore. In fact, they are running a successful fund-raising campaign in the United States, and at the end of the year will present a quicentenary exhibition of heraldry in New York and other cities. I dare say it will be called Quincentennial over there. They are serious scholars in a romantic, if somewhat narrow, field of history.

And here, hot upon their heels, comes an even dottier quincentenary: the Billesdon Award. I have to warn you that it has to do with the livery companies of the City of London, so hold on to your hats, and be prepared for some pretty arcane stuff.

The Merchant Taylors (sic, I am afraid) and the Skinners, who lined their clothes with fur, were craft rivals in the Middle Ages in the City. Both companies were chartered in 1327 within a few days of each other. They disputed bitterly, and often bloodily, about trade; and formally about precedence in the order of the companies going in processions in the City. Heads were broken about whether the Taylors should march sixth and the Skinners seventh, or vice versa.

Eventually, on April 10, 1484, they submitted the dispute to the arbitration of Sir Robert Billesdon, the Mayor. In a Judgment of Solomon he decided that they should alternate between sixth and seventh annually for evermore; moreover, each company should dine each other annually. And so they have, and so they do: even though they still cannot agree on other matters. As a matter of guild loyalty, the Skinners always spell Sir Robert's surname Billesdon; the Merchant Taylors adhere fiercely to Billesden.

The quincentenary of the Billesden/Billesdon Award is about to be celebrated with a service at St Paul's, a concert at the Barbican, seminars, commemorative balls, and, I dare say, a certain amount of the browsing and sluicing that the livery companies are so good at.

All good fun for the famous schools and other worthy charities that the two companies support; as well as for middle-aged stockbrokers who like dressing up as medieval craftsmen for a feast. But what has it got to do with the rest of us?

But you see, Best Beloved, that medieval dispute at least contributed a useful proverb that is still alive to the English language. "At sixes and sevens" commemorates the ancient rivalry about who should go into dinner first. Or so we are about to be told.

Alas and of course, like so much neat folk etymology, the derivation is codswallop. The first written appearance of "at sixes and sevens" in English is in 1340. Chaucer in *Troilus* (c. 1374) has (spelling modernized):

Let not this wretched woe thine heart gnaw,
But manly, set the world on six and seven,
And if thou die a martyr, go to heaven.

The professional etymologists derive the phrase from dicing, and hazard the guess that it is a fanciful alteration of "to set on cinque and sice," the two highest numbers on a dice. Which goes to show that professional etymologists are not only spoil-sports, but also not cut out to be gamblers. The Billesdon Version is much more fun. And this is not the year to raise a scruple of doubt against it.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CUSTOMS AND MALPRACTICE

Italian customs officers are working to rule, causing intense frustration and hardship to French lorry-drivers. The latter react, with true Cartesian logic, by blocking the roads to all traffic, first around French ski resorts then throughout France, so as to put pressure on the French government. We live, after all, in a united Europe. M *Mitterrand, the French President*, is currently in the European chair, and in that capacity this Monday he was visiting the Italian prime minister, Signor Craxi, in Milan: so he was able to tell him to get his customs officers back to work at the double.

Similar messages have been reaching Signor Craxi from Austria, which somehow manages to benefit from European unity without being a member of the EEC and so has more than 1600 lorries waiting on its side of the border for Italian customs clearance. And Signor Craxi cannot have been idle. Yesterday the Prefect of Turin ordered the Italian customs men to work normally; and one of the main unions involved announced that it was calling off its overtime ban. The inhabitants of the narrow Val d'Aosta are bracing themselves for simultaneous ignition of some ten thousand lorry engines. But France, meanwhile, remains paralysed. "The state does not negotiate under pressure," *explains M Jaques* Delors, the French finance minister – whose colleague at Transport, M Charles Fiterman, has been negotiating under intense pressure since the weekend.

Rather a lot of issues are raised by this affair, whose comic side is no doubt a good deal less visible to those now spending their fifth or sixth consecutive night by the roadside on the lower slopes of Mont Blanc. There are the specific grievances of both lorry-drivers (or lorry-owners) and customs officers. There is the question of the degree of maltreatment the public must be prepared to put up with from this or that category of workers, however acute and justified the grievances involved. There is the variety of national cultures in this respect – ably explored, as between France and Britain, by our Paris correspondent on the opposite page. There is the general political and social situation illuminated, and perhaps affected, by these events in both France and Italy. Above all, there is the question: what sort of Europe are we living in; and why, in a customs union which for France and Italy has been in existence a quarter of a century, do we need customs officers at all?

The demand of the Italian customs officers to be increased in number, on the grounds that there are only four thousand of them whereas Germany has thirty thousand, is perhaps the one that will arouse the least sympathy among the European public: though one should bear in mind the length of the Italian coastline, and the fact that the common external tariff has presumably to be levied at the Swiss and Austrian frontiers. But there is surely something absurd and unacceptable about the fact that, as Dr Karl-Heinz Narjes, the European Commissioner for the "internal market", pointed out in a speech at Chatham House last October, a road haulier carrying goods from Rotterdam to Naples, on top of his average 26 hours' driving time, has to allow ten hours' waiting time at the Community's *internal* frontiers.

Even railway passengers between Paris and Brussels, as a writer in the *New York Times* remarked yesterday, have to be checked by two sets of police and two sets of customs officers – though at least they can do it while in motion instead of being held up at the frontier like the truck drivers. Surely if the Common Market means anything it should mean we can do away with such controls and treat the Community as a single economic space within which goods and persons can travel at will. If it achieved that, perhaps the *fronde* of the French lorry-drivers would be forgiven even by those whose holidays it has ruined.

But does their movement have political implications in France? They themselves strenuously deny it, rejecting any comparison with the movement which helped to bring down Salvador Allende in Chile – a comparison that the increasingly nervous left-wing coalition in France has been quick to draw. Many of their grievances, they point out, antedate the arrival of the left in power: and the right hestitates to exploit, still less applaud, a movement that so obviously defies law and order. On the other hand M Maurice Voiron, leader of the largest organization involved, was talking last October about a "battle for free enterprise"; and one of the accusations against M Fiterman, the Communist transport minister, is that he has systematically favoured rail over road transport. He denies it but, after this experience, he could hardly be blamed if he were to do so in future.

GETTING IT IN WRITING

Since late last year the British and Chinese negotiating teams have simply been describing their talks on Hongkong as "useful and constructive". This bland formula was given another airing yesterday, after the latest round of talks in Peking. But beyond such vague generalities the outlines of an agreement are starting to take shape. Barring unforeseen problems, the two sides can be expected to make a statement on the future of Hongkong, perhaps in the form of a communique, within the next few months.

It is safe to assume that the statement will combine some British acknowledgment of China's sovereignty over Hongkong with a Chinese commitment to preserve the character of the territory largely intact. But it will not, it seems, lay down in detail the manner in which the Chinese will put their commitment into practice. The Chinese themselves have said more than once that the future status of Hongkong will be enshrined in a basic law, or mini-constitution, embodying China's plans for an autonomous, self-governing zone, and that this mini-constitution will take quite a long time to draw up.

None of this will satisfy the five million or so people of Hongkong, most of whom are deeply distrustful of the Chinese Communists, and would prefer it if Hongkong stayed as it is today. But given the extraordinary nature of the Hongkong problem – the lease agreement under which Britain holds most of the colony, the complex interdependence of Hongkong and China – the British Government has had little choice but to seek a settlement within the bounds sketched out by the present, pragmatic leadership in Peking.

Within these bounds there is still a good deal to be achieved. The British Government's first priority must be to ensure that the basic law, or whatever it is eventually called, that China draws up for Hongkong is as detailed and precise as possible, and is incorporated in a formal document signed and sealed by the British and Chinese governments – if not in the form of a treaty, then in the closest approximation to a treaty that diplomacy will allow. The reason for this is simply that throughout their thirty-four years in power the Chinese Communist leaders have displayed a healthy respect for international agreements, and have proved far more ready to honour them than they have, say, the provisions of their own state constitution. And if it is possible to write into this agreement specific assurances regarding key aspects of Hongkong life – the freedom of its press, the freedom of its people to travel abroad, the inviolability and independence of its laws, the proper handling of its foreign reserves – these will help allay the doubts and fears from which people in Hongkong now suffer.

Such written provisions will not and cannot provide cast-iron guarantees. The sad and unpalatable fact is that however genuine China's present leaders may be about preserving Hongkong unchanged, the shadow of Chinese Communism will hang over the territory come what may. *Within the Chinese Party* and bureaucracy the habits of political intervention and *dirigisme* are very deeply ingrained. Even if there is not another upsurge of radicalism or isolationism – and who knows what will happen when 79-year-old Deng Xiaoping dies? – Chinese cadres will find it hard to let Hongkong go its own way. But a precisely-worded document will help deter the kind of inadvertent interventionism which would have a slow but fatal effect on the territory's present prosperity.

There are other tasks, too, to which the British Government and the British authorities in Hongkong must devote their attention. Before China takes overall control of Hongkong steps should be taken to create a suitable political framework for the local self-government to which Peking says it is committed. Sensible and well-informed people in Hongkong are now calling for a form of democracy to replace the present colonial system of government there. One of the chief failings of the British in Hongkong has been to neglect this aspect of life. More democracy in Hongkong will give the people of the colony strength and self-confidence in their future dealings with China. It will also enable the Chinese Government to deal more easily with Hongkong, as Chinese leaders themselves now seem to accept. But the process will have to handled deftly if it is not to get out of hand, or cause unnecessary offence to Peking. The transition to a self-governing Hongkong, strong and mature enough to work with – and to some extent under – the authorities in China, will be a complex one, and one that calls for great political skill.

. . . OH LIBERTY! WHAT CRIMES . . .

Individual liberty would seem to be at its most secure here in the maturest of the western democracies. But the very thoroughness of its permeation of the British tradition has its dangers. People can be too casual about the ingredients which make up the whole, too complacent about its continuation in perpetuity. Freedom, as we must never forget, is conditional; and the necessary pre-condition is eternal vigilance.

The National Council for Civil Liberties which celebrates its half century this week, was set up to maintain that vigilance. Unfortunately its fiftieth anniversary does not inspire universal confidence that it has remained true to its tradition. This conviction does not come just from the libertarian right which itself can *claim* a long tradition, and is now enjoying some unprecedented respectability. The NCCL does not represent that kind of liberty, for sure; but it is seen as indiscriminately anti-authority in every sphere other than economics.

This week the NCCL announced, as part of its new "Liberty Campaign", an intention to reverse the drift into "a law and order society". There is nothing wrong with a society that is lawful and orderly. Indeed, respect for the law and for our neighbours is a pre-condition of a responsible society in which individuals can exercise their freedoms. It is the means *whereby* it is achieved that require eternal vigilance. There are the methods of totalitarianism and the methods of democracy and many stages in between.

Pressure groups such as NCCL invariably attract their share of harmless eccentrics. It is worrying for the public and self-defeating for the NCCL, however, when organizations for whom the word "liberty" has a peculiar meaning, like the Communist Party of Great Britain, obtain a strong foothold in NCCL as communists did in the 1940s and the mid-1970s. Mr Larry Gostin, the fluent New York lawyer who took over in November, was appointed on the understanding that he would not become identified with a political party as had his predecessors. He made plain from the start his wish that NCCL should break out of its left wing ghetto and "gain a wide and substantial following from all parties, classes and races". He must be held to that undertaking.

In the later 1980s there will, no doubt, be moments when NCCL will offend that very middle opinion it is seeking to capture by seeming soft on terrorism through its opposition to the Prevention of Terrorism Act or wandering once more into emotionally explosive areas like the age of consent. But there are a number of areas where its work will prove increasingly important as technology enables authority, if it so chooses, to intrude ever deeper into personal privacy through electronic surveillance or by storing more information than is strictly necessary in personal files held by the police, the Department of Health and Social Security or the Inland Revenue. Given the complexity of legislation and equipment in these fields, full-time professional watchdogs have a valuable public service to perform. For that reason, NCCL must build on its 50-year tradition of screening every bill, clause, annex and administrative procedure for the thin ends of wedges. It will be hard work, and often unfashionable; but that should not be an encouragement to unnecessary overbidding.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Plea for time by Falklanders

From the Representative of the Falkland Islands Government

Sir, Whilst it is desirable that there be improved diplomatic and commercial relations between Great Britain and Argentina, it is too early to talk of opening links between the Falkland Islands and Argentina and we feel strongly that the Falkland Islands should not be used as a pawn in any bilateral negotiations.

We would welcome the opportunity of re-establishing communications and trading links with Chile and Uruguay. It is important, of course, that the Falkland Islands Government is as far as possible kept continuously advised of all developments in this area.

When the Falkland Islands have had a period of peaceful reconstruction and development the Government and people will be able more clearly to assess their position and decide how they wish their political future to develop, in other words, exercise their right of self- determination.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN MONK, Representative,
Falkland Islands Government,
29 Tufton Street,
Westminster, SW1.
February 22.

Balance of advantage at Scott Lithgow

From Professor James Pickett

Sir, Much has been said and written about Scott Lithgow; yet relatively little effort has been made to make systematic calculations about the consequences of alternative courses of action for the British economy as a whole.

In this regard even evidently minimal cost-benefit analysis suffices to establish that it is most unlikely that construction of an alternative to the 2002 rig abroad would be in the British national interest. It also serves as a reminder that any part of the value added by a rescue and subsequent operations at Scott Lithgow which leaks abroad could not be counted as a direct benefit to the British economy.

The aggregate number of hourly-paid workers, supervisory and administrative staff required to complete the rig at Scott Lithgow may reasonably be put at 1.825. If this number remains in employment, the present value of savings to the Treasury would be at least £21.4m. This saving comes, of course, from avoiding redundancy payments and unemployment benefit.

It may be noted that redundancy accounts for £14.3m, so that this figure measures the additional, initial cost of the Bechtel proposal to close the yard for a brief, interim period. It should immediately be added this does not necessarily tell against Bechtel. A period of efficient planning could well be justified.

The main point I wish to make here about the £21.4m is the obvious one: it gives the Government very considerable scope for manoeuvre in efforts to preserve a long-term, economically viable offshore facility in Port Glasgow. This scope could be exploited in several ways, including that of making the terms of a renegotiated contract attractive to Britoil.

Moreover, the presumably informed interest of Trafalgar House, Bechtel and Howard Doris indicates that the commercial judgment is that Scott Lithgow has a future. Consequently if, for technical reasons, these three contenders are ruled out by Britoil, the Government should examine with Britoil and Scott Lithgow (not British Shipbuilders) what can be done to complete the rig before March, 1986.

In this regard, some part of the £21.4m could be spent on hiring Asian technical and management expertise to strengthen the already much-improved management team. This would be cheaper than closure and placing a £90m order in the Far East; and, most importantly, it could preserve the facility.

I appreciate that the Government's approach has throughout been an arm's-length one. However, failure to go down to the level of the individual enterprise has arguably been a major fault in the industrial policies of successive British governments.

Related to this, I think, is the growing feeling that the rundown of British industry has gone far enough. Where, as at Scott Lithgow, there are evident things the Government can do to reverse this, in support of and not in conflict with its views on competiveness in the economy, people are entitled and increasingly prone to ask why it does not do them.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES PICKETT, Director,
David Livingstone Institute of Overseas Development Studies,
University of Strathclyde,
McCance Building,
16 Richmond Street,
Glasgow.
February 22.

Lives of animals in the balance

From Mr Graham Chainey

Sir, The arrogance with which scientific man treats animal life has been twice exemplified in the past week: by the disclosure that animals are deliberately shot at the Porton Down defence establishment (reports, February 17 and 20), and by the announcement (report, February 16) that the Institute of Animal Physiology near Cambridge has engineered a "sheep-goat chimera".

As usual, superbly logical justifications have been advanced for these experiments. As a direct result of pigs being shot with high-velocity bullets and clamped-down monkeys being blasted with small arms at short range, medical services in the Falklands conflict were "unsurpassed in the history of warfare".

Similarly, the production of animals half-sheep, half-goat, is defended on the grounds that endangered species could be rescued "by creating conditions in which the embryo of a species at risk could be reared safely in another species".

In the former case, doctors specializing in war wounds – such as those at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast – have disclaimed the usefulness of such experiments, and the suspicion must be that animals are being shot not to save lives but so that more efficient weapons can be developed. In the latter case, the explanation looks like an afterthought to justify scientific meddling and curiosity.

In any case, is the amelioration of one evil sufficient excuse for the perpetration of another? The question is not easy: but scientists rarely seem to ask it, exercising instead the happy fulfilment of their specialized half-minds, leaving moral dilemmas to the exercise of specialized half-minds in another field.

It is 25 years since C. P. Snow proclaimed the existence of a separate scientific "culture", more important for the future of the world than the old "intellectual" one of academic "Luddites". Although F. R. Leavis challenged Snow's materialist conceitedness, few since have stood up for that human integrity and spiritual wholeness which are alone likely to prevent technological irresponsibility, in combination with Orwellian political logicality, from destroying the world.

It is, of course, too idealistic to wish that instead of shooting animals to investigate war wounds, we might investigate humans to discover why war is necessary; or that instead of using genetic engineering to perpetuate endangered species, we should stop endangering them by the rapacious pollutant and destructive habits of our materialist societies.

But though these two incidents may seem minor in the perspective of the world's crisis, they remain symptomatic of the nature of the world's disease.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM CHAINEY,
47 St Barnabas Road,
Cambridge.
February 19.

GLC papers

From Mr Neville Beale

Sir, In his feature article about Duncan Campbell's troubles (February 15) Peter Kellner says that "the only material marked 'restricted' in his (Campbell's) bicycle panniers were some planning documents provided by a Greater London Council committee (of which he is a co-opted member) and supplied to him in his formal *capacity as an adviser to the GLC* on civil defence policy".

I have to inform you that as opposition spokesman on that same committee I have yet to see any restricted Home Office document.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE BEALE,
Greater London Council,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1.
February 16.

Helping hand from National Trust

From Mr James Lees-Milne

Sir, Roger Scruton's indictment of the National Trust in his article, "Out with the stately, enter the state" (February 21), is so misleading that I had to read it twice to make sure it was not meant as a joke.

His assertion that the trust is "an institution, which . . . is in truth the smooth apologist for the injustices of the state" is indeed the reverse of the truth. On the contrary, the trust has always deprecated the penal taxation which compels so many families to abandon their country houses.

Mr Scruton "groans aloud" on the too-infrequent occasions when he learns that another "noble pile" has fallen into the trust's clutches, "to be eternally fossilized." But does he groan aloud every month of the year when some noble pile, which has not passed into the trust's safekeeping, either falls to the ground from decay, or is demolished by the house-breaker?

He instances Canons Ashby and Kingston Lacy as recent victims to the trust's "ghoulish" attentions, i.e., salvation and repair. The first house, which for decades deteriorated in the ownership of an ancient family too poor to maintain it, would undoubtedly have collapsed in ruins; and the second would certainly have been stripped of its incomparable picture collection, even if the fabric survived, had it not been for the National Trust alternative.

Not every historic house is, or can be lived in. Hardwick Hall is one such; *but that architectural masterpiece* is at least preserved intact. There are many country houses belonging to the National Trust in which the original families still reside, if not in the whole, then in part, and within 10 miles from where I write beautiful Dyrham Park provides flats for 10 separate families in addition to 14 state rooms, enjoyed by the public. There is no sign of "the dead hand of the National Trust" in this "mausoleum".

Yours,
JAMES LEES-MILNE,
19 Lansdown Crescent,
Bath, Avon.

From Mr Martin Briggs

Sir, Has it occurred to Roger Scruton, whose ill-informed and prejudiced outburst against the National Trust appeared in your issue of February 21, that the trust would agree with him in wanting country houses to remain, wherever possible, in private ownership?

Over the years the trust has repeatedly stated this simple belief and it is churlish of Dr Scruton to give no credit for the long list of happy rescues of houses, large and small, which, without the trust's sympathy, skill and love, would have crumbled and died, their contents dispersed and their environment lastingly impoverished.

Until quite recently I was administrator for eight years of one of the trust's major properties. In addition to the small permanent staff some sixty or so local people annually were employed seasonally, showing loyalty to, and affection for, the house, garden and estate in a tradition of such loyalty stretching back at least 500 years.

Among the 70,000 and more visitors each year few were seen to be visibly mourning any extinguished "fires of our national inheritance." Rather, common sentiments were gratitude to the trust for the sheer quality of its work, mixed with relief that something unique was being preserved.

These sentiments were, incidentally, shared and often expressed by members of the family who had previously owned the house.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BRIGGS,
Chittenden Cottage,
High Street,
Hawkhurst, Kent.
February 21.

Farmers under fire

From Mr Gerard Noel

Sir, David Hart (feature, February 15) again urges our politicians to get tough with farmers who should be, as he rather oddly puts it, "exposed to the cool winds of an economic reality that other sectors... had to embrace".

Mr Hart would have us imagine that the typical farmer is a big businessman "laughing all the way to the bank" on the back of lavish and indiscriminate subsidies. In fact, only 2.5 per cent of all agricultural holdings exceed 300 hectares and when one considers that two-thirds of all mixed farms run at a loss and that the industry's bank borrowing has reached £4bn, it is not surprising that the laughter has become a little hollow.

What would be the consequences of a wholesale removal of agricultural support? No doubt farmers on Grade 1 and 2 land would survive. Many others would go to the wall.

It is hard to see who would benefit from such a state of affairs apart perhaps from property speculators waiting to move in on the new rural slum.

Yours faithfully
GERARD NOEL,
The Manor,
Withington,
near Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
February 20

Charities and tax

From the Reverend John Ticehurst,

Sir, Lord Bruce-Gardyne's article ("No charity for the charities", February 15) today betrays considerable ignorance of the effects of the taxation embroideries he and his like have got up to in recent years.

A tiny church in this district had on its roof a collapsing and entirely useless cupola that contained a bell that might have been rung once in the last fifty years. They wished to *take it down before it fell into the* street but, because theirs is a grade II listed building (and a poor one at that), the state refused to allow them to do so.

Instead they have had to replace it at a cost of nearly £2,000 – money they would rather have given to Christian Aid; and then, to add insult to injury, the Government that forced this unnecessary expenditure on them also charged them an extra 15 per cent for the privilege of living in a free country.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TICEHURST,
The Manse,
Franklyn Avenue,
Braunton,
North Devon.
February 15.

Telephone tapping

From Mr Antony Whitaker

Sir, The phone-tapping issues now being "ventilated" – if that is not *over-dignifying* the Government's posture – at Strasbourg and in Parliament raise the delicate point of exactly what amounts to a phone "tap".

In its ordinary sense it seems to mean simply a listening device attached to a telephone cable and not the interception of radio-transmitted calls, which account for an increasing volume of both international and domestic traffic. It is indeed amazing, as Mr Ross-Munro has said (report, February 21), if 100 Post Office eavesdroppers cannot manage more than four and a half taps per man per year.

But is it clear that this is all they do? Do they also carry out GCHQ-type monitoring, and if so, do they seek the Home Secretary's permission to do it? Will they need it under the amendment carried against the Government yesterday (report, February 21) outlawing unauthorized tapping amd making it subject to a £5,000 fine?

What about the US listening post at Menwith Hill, the strategic and nodal eavesdropping point for most intercontinental telephone traffic? How much of that gets the Home Secretary's personal, individual authorization for each interception?

"Tapping under this Act shall be deemed to include the interception of any radio-transmitted communication" – a necessary, anti-Orwellian safeguard in a 1984 measure. With that we could sleep more easily and – more to the point – converse more privately.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY WHITAKER,
14 Belmont Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
February 22.

The political levy

From the Director of Aims of Industry

Sir, The condemnation of the Government's refusal to change on the political levy from opting out to opting in (as is still the case in Northern Ireland) is overshadowing one essential and urgent step. It is to protect trade unionists throughout the country who, despite the fact that they state that they do not want to pay the levy, nevertheless have it deducted from their wages by their employer, and many of them do not get their money back.

The Trade Union Act, 1913, states that this should not be done unless there are special difficulties. Trade unions and employers hide behind this by arguing that in the days of the computer it is difficult to exempt trade unionists who have stated that they do not wish to support the Labour Party. The opposite is the truth. The computer can be highly flexible in these matters.

Just occasionally a brave man stands out and complains, as was the case with Mr Jack Cleminson, of the Post Office Engineering Union, who went to the certification officer after spending 12 years asking for his money back.

Mr Tom King's "agreement" with the TUC will do nothing to alter this. It would be a simple matter for him to put the matter right by means of legislation. Let us hope we get an amendment on this when the Bill goes through Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL IVENS, Director,
Aims of Industry,
40 Doughty Street, WC1.
February 20.

Nuclear 'first use'

From Lord Gladwyn

Sir, As the negotiator, on behalf of Mr Bevin, of the first draft of a North Atlantic Treaty, and as an ex-President of the North Atlantic Treaty Association, I can hardly be suspected of being anti-American, still less anti-Nato! It was as a strong supporter of the Alliance, therefore, that I found Mr Podhoretz's article (February 16) tendentious and misleading.

As I understand it, those who believe that the first use of nuclear weapons would, in all probability, result in something infinitely worse than defeat do not recommend any formal repudiation by Nato of any such intention (suicide, presumably always being a possible option), but rather a simple assumption by all the governments concerned that "first use" being, in practice, an impossibility, the construction of some "credible" non-nuclear defensive system is now an absolute necessity. This certainly applies to the European members of Nato, but it also applies to the USA.

More particularly if, instead of spending billions of dollars in an attempt to achieve nuclear "superiority", or even nuclear "parity" – for all you really need is the assured capacity to knock out your adversary on a "second strike" – the resulting savings were devoted to the mass production of "conventional" weapons of the latest type; to the protection of airfields, communications centres and dumps; to more suitable naval vessels and aircraft; and, more generally, to the creation of a more modern and flexible strategy, the whole present danger could be averted.

This might involve (for the Europeans) some extra expenditure and I agree with Mr Podhoretz at least in holding that their refusal to contemplate anything of the kind is as regrettable as it is alarming.

I also agree that the triumph of "neutralism" in Europe – of which there is at present little prospect – would probably result, not in war, but in a sort of Soviet hegemony over a number of disunited social democracies. As I see it a new defence system, based on the assumption that there can be no first use of nuclear weapons, would be far the best way to avert such a disaster.

And in so believing I am proud to be associated with those great members of the "Eastern Establishment" mentioned by Mr Podhoretz who, I am certain, are in the forefront of all efforts to resist the naturally isolationist tendencies associated with many in California, if not, unhappily, in Washington itself.

Yours etc,
GLADWYN,
House of Lords.

Cross words

From Mr Harry Holt

Sir, Shafts of lexicographical wit can be found even within the covers of the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*.

In my 1946 edition the 14-line entry under "Oxford" includes definitions of Oxford bags, blue, clay, frame, man (!), mixture, movement, shirting, shoes and tracts. The entry under "Cambridge" consists of less than one line. It reads, in full, "C. blue, light blue".

Cowardly editors of more recent editions, however, have expanded the Cambridge entry considerably, even to the extent of admitting the existence of a university there.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY HOLT,
Orchard Close,
Britwell Salome,
Watlington,
Oxfordshire.
February 13.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 23: Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Trowbridge was received in audience by The Queen on relinquishing his appointment as Governor of Western Australia.

Lady Trowbridge had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Sir Philip Woodfield had the honour of ..ng received by The Queen on his retirement as Permanent Secretary, Northern Ireland Office.

The President of the Italian Republic visited The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace today and remained to luncheon.

The following had the honour of being invited: His Excellency Signor Giulio Andreotti (Minister for Foreign Affairs), His Excellency Signor Antonio Gullotti (Minister of Culture), Signor Antonio Maccanico (Secretary-General, Presidency of the Republic), His Excellency the Italian Ambassador and Signora Cagiati, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Lady Howe, the Earl and Countess of Gowrie, the Viscount Norwich, the Baroness Elles, MEP and Mr Neil Elles, the Lord Bridges, the Right Hon Denis Healey, MP and Mrs Healey, Sir Hugh and Lady Casson, Sir John and Lady Tooley, Mr and Mrs John Smith, Mr Julien Bream, Mr and Mrs Alexander Chancellor and Professor and Mrs John Hale.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by The President of the Italian Republic, this evening visited The Genius of Venice 1500-1600 Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Having been received by the President of the Royal Academy (Sir Hugh Casson) and the Secretary (Mr Piers Rodgers), Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, with His Excellency, toured the Exhibition and attended a Reception.

The Countess of Airlie, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Major the Hon Andrew Wigram, left King's Cross Station in the Royal Train this evening for North Yorkshire.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 23: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Concert in Westminster Abbey given by the English Chamber Orchestra to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Sir Edward Elgar.

Lady Elizabeth Basset and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 23: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present at the Elgar Commemorative Concert arranged by the Elgar Society and performed by the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the Royal Festival Hall, London, this evening.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland and Mrs Michael Wigley were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 23: Princess Alexandra, at Cowes, Isle of Wight, this afternoon named the new Arun class lifeboat Sir Max Aitken II, which has been received by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution from the Beaverbrook Foundation for service at Stornoway.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for Ronald Lewin will be held today at noon at St Paul's, Knightsbridge.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. Browne and Miss C. Guinness
The engagement is announced between Piers, younger son of Sir Humphrey Browne, of Beckbury Hall, Shropshire, and the late Lady Browne, and Charlotte, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Guinness, of Huyton Fold, Fulmer, Buckinghamshire.

Mr C. W. Allen and Miss H. F. Jones
The engagement is announced between Charles William, second son of Mr and Mrs K. Allen, of Weybridge, and Helen Frances, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs N. E. Jones, of Holt, Wrexham, Clwyd.

Mr N. D. Bailey and Miss J. L. Holland
The engagement is announced between Nicholas David, younger son of Colonel and Mrs David Bailey, of Cobham, Surrey, and Julia Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric B. Holland, of Malvern, Worcestershire.

Mr A. D. Bardot and Miss J. R. Fenn
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mrs P. Kelly and stepson of Mr P. Kelly, of The Cwm, Monmouth, and Joanna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. H. Fenn, of Furnace House, Haslemere.

Mr A. A. Clark and Miss ... D. Baddeley
... engagement is announced ... an Arthur, son of Mr and ... Clark, of High Wycombe, ... Denise, daughter of Mr ... E. Baddeley, of High ...

... Hewitt and ... L. Glascoe
...ement is announced ...uy, son of Mr J. A. H. ... Fulham, and Mrs O. I. ... of Knightsbridge, and ...est daughter of Mr C. J. ... and Mrs R. D. Glascoe.

...elly and ... J. H. Stamp
...gagement is announced ... Stephen, son of Mr ...glas Kelly, of High Halden, Kent, and of Mrs Lynn Kelly, of Kensington, and Jessamy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Stamp, of Woldingham, Surrey.

Mr G. P. Grajcarek and Miss J. L. Harrington
The engagement is announced between Gary, son of Mr and Mrs F. Grajcarek, of Manor Park, and Janice, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Harrington, of Walthamstow.

Mr A. D. Jamieson and Miss R. A. Boyd
The engagement is announced between Alasdair, elder son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Jamieson, of Edinburgh, and Rosy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Boyd, of Whittington, Gloucestershire.

Mr E. N. Kanu and Miss E. M. Robson
The engagement is announced between Ekperechi, son of the late Colonel M. O. Kanu and Mrs Kanu, of Arochuku, Nigeria, and Eva, daughter of the Rev Ian and Mrs Robson, of St Mary Abbots Vicarage, Kensington.

Mr J. C. C. Meggs and Miss C. L. Hutley
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Meggs of Great Barton, Bury St Edmunds, and Claire, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. E. J. Hutley, of Canford Cliffs, Dorset.

Mr J. C. Morgan and Miss R. J. Kendrew
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs I. G. J. Morgan, of the Well House, Shawford, Hampshire, and Lindy, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. S. Kendrew, of Yew Tree Cottage, Oulston, York.

Mr P. N. Randall and Miss A. D. Coath
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs J. S. Randall, of Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, and Anamaria, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs W. E. D. Coath, of Weybridge, Surrey.

Mr J. N. Renninson and Miss C. E. Harper
The engagement is announced between John Neal, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Renninson, of Lancaster, and Catherine Eva, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs J. R. Harper, of Northampton.

Mr C. A. Smith and Mrs S. J. D. Corbett
The engagement is announced between Adam Smith, of Troon, Ayrshire and Jane Corbett, of East Wing Blair, Dalry, Ayrshire.

Captain S. O. Lunn and Miss F. M. Pharoah
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. O. Lunn, of Great Lumley, co Durham and Fiona, daughter of Professor and Mrs P. O. D. Pharoah, of Allerton, Liverpool.

Mr H. A. Pont and Miss D. P. Craddock
The engagement is announced between Howard, son of Mrs A. V. M. Pont and the late Mr A. V. M. Pont, of Chichester, Sussex and Diana, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. V. A. Craddock, of The Manor House, Duncton, Sussex.

Mr M. N. Sellers and Miss F. M. Stead
The engagement is announced between Mortimer Newlin, son of Professor and Mrs P. H. Sellers, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Frances Mary, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. S. Stead, of Cuckfield, Sussex.

Mr N. M. West and Miss J. C. Pill
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Michael, only son of Mr T. M. West and the late Mrs W. C. West and Stepson of Mrs B. A. West, of Stratford-Upon-Avon and Jeanette Cynthia, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. M. D. Pill, of Cardiff.

Mr N. D. Weston and Miss N. C. Dixon
The engagement is announced between Nicholas David, second son of Mr N. David Weston, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent and Mrs Philip Kay, of Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk and Noella Charlotte, second daughter of Mr and Mrs T. H. Dixon, of Tonbridge, Kent.

Marriage

Mr J. R. D. Palmer and Lady Laura Elliot
Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester was present at a reception at St James's Palace held after the marriage of Mr John Palmer, younger son of Mr and Mrs William Palmer, and Lady Laura Elliot, daughter of the Earl of Minto and Lady Caroline Ogilvy, which took place at St James's, Piccadilly, yesterday. The Rev Donald Reeves officiated, assisted by Father Kenneth Nugent, SJ.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Lucy Bridge, Eleanor Child-Villiers, Kate Crockatt, Flora Davidson, Rose Davidson, Emilie Filmer Wilson, Natalia Gilmour, Scarlett Stapleton, the Master of Elphinstone and Tom Naylor-Leyland. Mr David Waterhouse was best man.

The honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Timepieces sell above estimates

By Huon Mallalieu

At Sotheby's yesterday a sale of clocks and watches attracted many European dealers and collectors and produced a total of £207,416 with 9 per cent bought in.

A large and unrecorded eight-day keyless pocket chronometer by the noted London firm of Frodsham went to Mannheimer, a dealer from Zurich, at £20,900 (estimate £12,000 to £18,000). The case was hall-marked for 1915.

A quarter-striking carriage clock by James McCabe, which had been presented to the Bishop of Bombay in 1851, reached £11,550 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000), and another English-made item to do well was an early George III red japanned musical bracket clock. This was by Stephen Rimbault of London, who was famous for such things, and it went to a private bidder at £7,150 (estimate £3,500 to £5,000).

A furniture sale at Christie's also saw many lots selling well above estimate, and made £200,696 with 14 per cent bought in. A late Regency ivory inlaid ebony and rosewood rectangular centre table reached £9,720 against an estimate of from £3,000 to £4,000, and a pair of George III open armchairs made £6,480.

However, in a sale of carpets and textiles Christie's found the going much less easy, and the £144,558 total was marred by a bought-in percentage of 66.

This is traditionally a difficult field, and one that has little relationship to the strength or weakness of the rest of the antiques market. Despite this, there were one or two surprises even here, such as an antique Heriz carpet, with a salmon-pink field, which went to the dealer Vigo Sternberg at £9,720, against an estimate of from £2,000 to £2,500.

In a sale of arms and armour Phillips took a bid of £11,000 for a fine pair of shotguns by William Powell

Science report

The slow growth of seabed nodules

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

One of the richest sources of minerals is contained in the many nodules, varying in size from a marble to a tennis ball, which lie on the seabed at a depth of 10,000ft and more. Known as manganese nodules they are a potential source of nickel and copper.

Their existence came to public prominence a few years ago when the late Howard Hughes's marine engineering enterprise developed a vessel that was designed ostensibly to suck up some of those deposits for processing at a land-based mineral recovery plant. However, deep-sea mining is a matter of controversy.

An equally intense dispute surrounds the origin of manganese nodules, which have been scientific curiosities for decades since the first oceanographic survey ships dredged up specimens.

Scientists are still uncertain why manganese nodules exist at all. They appear to grow at the glacial pace of 10 millimetres a million years.

But is that is correct, why do they remain on the floor of the seabed and avoid being discovered in the shower of clay and biological debris which forms a layer thousands of times thicker beneath?

An explanation of how the nodules feed geochemically on the metals which are dissolved in the surrounding sea water or that are deposited on sediments near by is reported in *Science*, The weekly periodical of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The conclusions are drawn from an extensive research study called the Manganese Nodule Project (MANOP), involving a number of universities. The chunks of metal-rich ore exist in all the oceans, but the highest concentrations of nodules are in the Pacific.

The content of copper, iron, nickel and manganese varies and, therefore, so does the potential economic value of each deposit. The fact that the mineral content differs provides one clue to the type of geochemistry controlling the slow accretion of nodules.

The results of the MANOP investigation suggest that the metals originate from the rain of plant and animal remains which contain tiny traces of the minerals. Three main processes govern the way the elements are dissolved in sea water or deposited on the sediments.

The first of those, hydrogenous precipitation – or the reaction of a compound with hydrogen – has nothing to do with the sediment on which the nodules are couched. The process deposits metals present in sea water at concentrations of parts per billion on to nodules.

The two other processes depend on whether any oxygen remains below the surface sediment. The oxygen conditions determine the rate at which particular metals may be freed. Different combinations of some or all the reactions might occur.

Science, Vol 223, No 4636, 1984.

Newspaper visitor: President Pertini of Italy, on a three-day official visit to London, examining a facsimile of the Waterloo edition of *The Times* with Mr Charles Douglas-Home, the editor, when he visited the paper yesterday. Earlier the President, aged 87, lunched at Buckingham Palace with the Queen, who accompanied him in the evening on a tour of the "Genius of Venice" exhibition at the Royal Academy.

Luncheon

Anglo-German Association
The executive committee of the Anglo-German Association gave a luncheon yesterday in honour of the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Baron Ruediger von Wechmar, at the Royal Air Force Club. Among those present were:
[illegible] Mr D E Buckley, Mr P Johnson, Dr R Holubek, Air Commodore L G P Martin, Mr P McGregor, Miss A Meikle, Mr N Reddaway, Mrs A M Scales and Mr and Mrs P Vieland.

Institution of Electrical Engineers
Viscount Caldecote and Canon Edwyn Young were the principal speakers at the annual dinner of the Institution of Electrical Engineers held at Grosvenor House last night. The President of the Institution, Mr Maldwyn John, presided.

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor of Westminster gave a dinner at City Hall last night. The guests included:
The High Commissioner for Jamaica and Mrs Walker, the Rev Lord and Lady Sandford, Sir Richard Beaumont, Mr and Mrs P Firmston-Williams, Mr and Mrs Keith Grant, Mr and Mrs D Ross and Mr and Mrs J D Witty.

Dinners

Needlemakers' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Needlemakers' Company held at Mansion House last night. The Master, Mr G. A. Bayman, and Mrs Bayman, and the Wardens and their ladies received the guests. The Lord Mayor, the Master, Sir John Donne and Mr P. R. C. Coni, QC, were the speakers. The Hungarian Ambassador was also present.

Army Board
Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, presided at a dinner given at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, yesterday by the Army Board of the Defence Council. Army Board members present were General Sir John Stanier, General Sir George Cooper, General Sir Richard Trant, Lieutenant-General Sir James Glover and Mr Brian Robson. The guests were:
Viscount Tonypandy, Lord Carrington, Sir Antony Acland, General Sir Robert Ford, General William R Richardson, the Dean of Windsor, Mr Anthony Nelson, MP, Group Captain Gordon Pirie and Mr Correlli Barnett.

Receptions

Westminster School
The Head Master of Westminster School held a reception yesterday evening in Ashburnham House after the Henry Tizard memorial lecture given by Professor Gareth Roberts. Sir Geoffrey Allen was in the chair and among those present were:
Professor Norman Ashton, Professor A Cameron, Dr L Cohen, Dr J A Colley, Professor A H Cook, Professor C F Cullis, Sir Frederick Dainton, Dr M A Grace, Professor M Hart, Professor K W Keohane, Dr R B Nicholson, Dr G H Stafford, Sir Robert and Lady Strickland-Constable, Mr Andrew Tizard, Dr D A T Tizard, Sir Peter Tizard and Mr R H Tizard.

Cymmrodorion Society
Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, received the guests at a reception given by the Cymmrodorion Society at Gray's Inn yesterday to mark the centenary of University College, Cardiff. Among those present were:
Lady Elwyn-Jones, Lord and Lady Edmund-Davies, Baroness White, Mr and Mrs Ben G Jones, Dr C W L Bevan, Principal of University College, Cardiff, Judge and Mrs Watkin Powell and Professor Brian Morris.

Rugby head resigning after illness

Mr Brian Rees, Headmaster of Rugby School since 1981, is resigning at the end of this term after a period of ill health caused by severe strain (Our Education Correspondent writes).

An announcement yesterday said that Mr Rees, aged 54, had been resting since the end of the autumn term last year on doctor's orders after a period of overwork which followed a fund-raising tour of South Africa and a heavy schedule of speaking commitments elsewhere. His resignation has been accepted with regret by Rugby's governing body as from April 30.

Mr Rees's first teaching job was at Eton in 1952 as an assistant master and he later became headmaster of three public schools, Merchant Taylor', Northwood, Charterhouse and Rugby.

Mr John Marshall, the school's second master, will continue as acting head until a new appointment is made. Rugby, where the fees are £4,830 a year, has three girls' houses and 75 girls in the sixth form.

Charterhouse

The following have been recommended for election to music scholarships:
D G Phillips, Salisbury Cathedral School, Salisbury; M D Gundry, Fettes Junior School, Edinburgh; N C Trimbee, Reigate Grammar School, Reigate.

Birthdays today

Mrs N. H. Alexander, 69; Professor E. Boyland, 79; Lord Clitheroe, 83; Dr Lionel Dakers, 60; Mr Reginald Freeson, MP, 58; Mr Richard Hamilton, 62; Mr Paul Jones, 42; Mr David Langdon, 70; Mr Charles McCall, 77; Lord Melchett, 36; Admiral Sir William Pillar, 60; Mr Frank Rogers, 64; Sir Edgar Vaughan, 77; Mr Dennis Waterman, 36; Sir Harold Wilkinson, 80.

Archive stamps for sale

A series of 30 auction sales spread over 10 years begins on April 26, when Robson Lowe of Christie's holds a first sale of stamps from Post Office archives (our Stamps Correspondent writes). Other sales will be conducted by Harmers of Bond Street, and by Phillips.

The stamps, estimated to be worth £5m, include sheets of the Great Britain stamps of King Edward VII, all over-printed "Specimen", and proof imprimatur sheets of Queen Elizabeth II issues up to 1970. There is a strong section of British stamps overprinted for use abroad in the Levant, Morocco and elsewhere. There are also departmental overprints which were in vogue until about 1909.

Many items have never been on the market before. Proceeds from the sales will be used by the National Postal Museum, London, to provide exhibitions at provincial centres, and to further the interests or philately through the British Philatelic Trust.

Before the sales, examples of any stamps not already in the extensive reference collections at the National Postal Museum or in the collection of the Queen at Buckingham Palace will be extracted to fill gaps.

Bequest to Masons

The 2,300 acre Broadstone Hill Estate near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, valued at more than £4m, has been left to the Freemasons. It was owned by Mr Harry Ellard, aged 86, of Wednesfield, Staffordshire, who died on Christmas Day. He owned a steel-pressing company.

Inner Temple awards

The Inner Temple has announced the following awards:
Major Scholarships, 1984: Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Scholarship of £5,000: M E Owen, BA BCL, of Magdalen College, Oxford; Inner Temple Scholarship of £3,000: Miss S M L Ward BA, LLM, of Girton College, Cambridge; Inner Temple Scholarship of £2,000: W J Shree, BA of Queens' College, Cambridge; Inner Temple Scholarships of £750: James Counsell, BA of Magdalene College, Cambridge, S J F Cedes, BA, of Keble College, Oxford.

Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Scholarships, which defray the cost of admission to the Inn and call to the bar: Miss M T Ahmed, of Southampton University, C D W Aylett, BA of Bristol University, C N Barton, Of Queens' College, London, T W Bergin, BA Queens' College, Cambridge, M D Bishop, BA Lincoln College, Oxford, A G Clark, Hull University, Miss C E Clarke, Southampton University, M J P Conlon, BA Hull University, M C Dalby, Regent's Park College, Oxford, Miss D A Eaton, BA Keele University, A M J Eborn, St Chads, Durham, N J Gibbs, Brunel University, P S Gostley, Worcester College, Oxford, M A Griffiths, New College, Oxford, N Hamilton-Kane, Bristol University, Miss M C E Hanlon, Southampton University, Mrs H E Helsten, LL B, East Anglia University.

Miss Sandra Jorio, Newnham College, Cambridge, N P Johnson, Queen Mary College, London, S J Killeen, BA, Leicester Polytechnic, Miss B H Lacey, Leeds University, D M B Lowell, Worcester College, Oxford, Miss C M Mayne, LLB, Leicester University, Miss C B Mulvenna, BA, Bristol University, D R Nelson, Bristol University, S C Nowell, Jesus College, Cambridge, Miss H A D Panickurst, BA, Sussex University, Mr M H Porter, St John's College, Cambridge, A G T Prosser, Queen Mary College, London, R A Quanby, Christ's College, Cambridge, Simon Ricketts, Queen Mary College, London, A J de G Robinson, University College, Oxford, J P Scott, BA, Sussex University, R P D Stewart, BA, Jesus College, Cambridge, J C Stocker, BA, Exeter University, A M Starraro, Hull University, M J Tennet, New College, Oxford, Miss Fiona Ure, Newnham College, Cambridge, D W Wall, BA, York University, J R Wilkins, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

Professor Andrew Rutherford, MA, BLitt, aged 54, Regius Professor of English and Vice-Principal of Aberdeen University, who has been appointed Warden of Goldsmiths' College in succession to Dr Richard Hoggart, who retires in September.

Mission audits suggested for parishes

Every Anglican parish is urged today to adopt goals for its work in the local community, and conduct regular reviews – or a "mission audit" – to see whether the goals are being reached. That is the recommendation of a report published by the Church of England's Board for Mission and Unity (our Religious Affairs Correspondence writes).

The Rev Rodney Bomford, Vicar of St Giles, Camberwell, south London, said in introducing the report: "Very often the church assessment is entirely subjective and based on people's feelings about what has happened. It is surely also important to assess it objectively."

The report suggests that the regular "audit" should be conducted by a team including those who are not members of the parish; that the whole congregation should be involved in defining the parish's objectives; and that the result of the audit should be presented to the congregation for discussion.

It acknowledges that some aspects of the church's work are unquantifiable, and says qualitative evaluation is still possible.

Bishop to retire

The Right Rev John K. Cavell, Bishop of Southampton since 1972, is to retire on June 30. He has also resigned after 10 years as Bishop of HM Prisons. The bishop and his wife are to live in Salisbury.

University news

Warwick
Honorary degrees will be conferred on the following in July:
LLD: Viscount Tonypandy, former Speaker.
DLitt: Mr James R. (Phil) Mead, former university treasurer; Professor Dorothy Wedderburn, Principal of Bedford College, London University.
DSc: Professor Dennis Sullivan, professor at the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifique, Paris.

Appointment
Dr David H. G. Crout, reader in chemistry at Exeter University, to be professor of organic chemistry from October 1.

Latest wills

Mr Edward Stanley Chance Curwen, of Bowness-on-Windermere, left estate valued at £1,308,126 net.

Mr Thomas Milner Heron, of Selside, Kendal, founder of Cresta Silks, left £52,842 net.

Mr Joseph Edwin Holliday, of Burwash, retired Army officer, left £239,632 net. After bequests totalling £27,000 he left the residue equally between cancer research and the National Institute for the Blind.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Billington, Mr William Harry, of Horley £211,106
Dearsley, Mr John William, of Hilgay, Norfolk £202,034
Glass, Mr Hubert James, of Solihull £339,557
Parrott, Mr John Murray, of Oving, Buckinghamshire £434,209
Wrinch, Mrs Hilda Adelaide Frances, of Erwarton, Ipswich £235,425
Clements, Mr Roland Edward, of Ponteland, Northumberland £662,693
Russell, Sir Edward Lionel, of Bristol, Chief Education Officer for Birmingham, 1946-68 .... £58,246

OBITUARY

DR CLAUDE NICOL
Leading venereologist

Dr Claude Nicol, CBE, who played a prominent part in the replanning of the venereal disease service, died on February 17.

Claude Scott Nicol was born in Dublin in 1914, and educated at Harrow, St John's College, Oxford, and St Mary's Hospital, London. He qualified in 1936, proceeding to his London MBBS in 1938. After two years in various departments in St Mary's Hospital, he had just gone to Oxford to work under Professor (later Sir) Howard Florey when war broke out.

A keen territorial, he was soon called up, and posted initially as specialist in venereology to the Victoria Hospital Netley. Here he found that the one solitary ward provided for the venerologist had overflowed to such an extent that practically the whole hospital was occupied by his patients.

He was later posted to the Middle East as adviser in venereology in the 8th Army. He retained his interest in the territorial army long after the war, rising to the rank of full colonel and commanding 217 (London) General Hospital. While commanding this unit he was appointed a Queen's Honorary Physician (1967-69).

After demobilization he went to the London Hospital where in due course he was appointed consultant venereologist, and in 1946 obtained both his London MD and his MRCP. He was elected FRCP in 1962.

From the London Hospital he moved to the double appointment of consultant venereologist to St Thomas's and St Bartholomew's Hospitals. He also spent a year as a Fellow in Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, under Dr Earle Moore, then the leading venereologist in the USA.

He had served as secretary and president of the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases, and was also a prominent member of the International Union against Venereal Diseases and Treponematosis.

In 1967, he was appointed consultant venereologist to the Army, a post he took very seriously, and spent much time giving lectures to young RAMC officers and providing post-graduate courses for specialist medical officers.

He was equally conscientous in fulfilling his duties as consultant adviser in venereology to the Department of Health and Social Security. Appointed to this post in 1968, it fell to him to arrest the decline in the venereology service which had been allowed to take place because of the false belief after 1945 that venereal disease was on its way out.

The hard facts of life showed that this was anything but the case, and it was largely due to Dr Nicol's work and influence that the service took on a new lease of life, attracted more recruits and gradually became capable of dealing with the problem of what are now officially described as sexually transmitted diseases.

He was appointed CBE in 1977.

MISS JOAN LIVERSIDGE

Miss Joan Liversidge, who died on January 16 at the age of 69, was well known for her knowledge of Roman Britain. She had been Honorary Keeper of the Roman collections in the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology since 1951 and for most of that time was effectively in charge of that section.

She taught the subject in both the Archaeological and Classical Faculties in Cambridge for a number of colleges. She also wrote on it for general readers (including schoolchildren) as well as for professionals. Both as a teacher and as a writer she conveyed her own vivid awareness of the past as a world of real people in recognizeable activities and transmitted her keen enjoyment of her subject.

She came comparatively late to serious study of archaeology, after her health and the interruption of the war had inhibited her plans for a career as a musician. Under the sympathetic guidance of J. C. M. Toynbee she undertook a survey of Romano-British villas (for which she was awarded an MLitt in 1949); she developed a speciality in the art of the province, in Roman furniture (on which she published a valuable book in 1955) and the evidence for everyday life.

The breadth of her scholarship is seen in her largest book, *Britain in the Roman Empire* (1968), which brought her a wide and continuing readership. Among professional archaeologists it is perhaps especially as an authority on Roman wall-painting that she is best known – both for her work on the material they excavated and in numerous publications. Many excavation reports have been enlivened by her acute observations. She solved the problem of the high cost of coloured plates by developing a useful scheme of colour identification on drawings; important studies of wall-painting at Verulamium, York and the Lullingstone villa are in the press.

In 1980 she founded an International seminar to further the subject and edited the first volume of its Proceedings, *Roman Provincial Wall-painting of the Western Empire* (1982).

Her great learning was however lightly borne, for she was a friendlyd homely personality: a pupil arriving for supervision might well find the chairs occupied by balls of wool, catalogues of plants, or sheets of music, for she continued to play and was a fine pianist. For 25 years she was Secretary of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society and was one of the most outstanding holders of the post, maintaining high standards in the lectures and publications and sometimes delighting her colleagues by the determination with which she laid aside her normal self-effacing manner in order to fight for a principle.

She had been a Research Fellow of Newnham College and became a (much valued) founding Fellow of Lucy Cavendish Collegiate Society, serving as Praelector from 1970-82 and as College and Faculty lecturer in Archaeology.

She was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1951.

PROF LASZLO ORSZAGH

Professor László Országh, the leading English scholar in Hungary and a lexicographer whose name has become synonymous with dictionaries, died on January 27 in a Budapest hospital. He was 76.

Országh was born on September 25, 1907, at Szombathely and educated at the *Eötvös* College of Budapest University and in the United States. After the Second World War he was appointed Professor of English at the University of Debrecen, a stronghold of English studies in Hungary, a post he held until his retirement in 1969.

His great single achievement was a set of English-Hungarian and Hungarian-English dictionaries (pocket, concise and comprehensive), of which, excluding pirate editions, altogether over a million copies are in print. The largest dictionaries in the set contain around 120,000 entries with a rich collection of idioms in both languages. He was also editor-in-chief of a seven-volume dictionary of Hungarian.

His other works include *The Rise of the English Novel* (1942), *A History of American Literature* (1967) and *English Elements in the Hungarian Lexical Stock* (1977). He received many honours and academic distinctions for his scholarly work, including the Gold Medal of the London Institute of Linguists (1970), and was an honorary OBE (1978).

MR PETER BROWN

Mr Peter Brown, Librarian of Trinity College, Dublin, and before that Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum and Keeper of Catalogues at the Bodleian, has died at the age of 58.

He was educated at Sutton Grammar School and later at King's College, London, after a period in the Navy. On joining the British Museum Library, as it then was, he undertook the editing of the 263 volumes of the printed catalogue.

On moving to the Bodleian he began the task of computerizing the library's pre-1920 catalogue. He also published a paper on computer activity at the Bodleian and a book, *The Use of Computers in University Libraries*.

At Dublin, too, he set up a computerized cataloguing system, and a conservation laboratory. His interest in new conservation methods was reflected in his involvement with the British Library Association's committee on conservation, and his chairmanship of the conservation section of the International Federation of Library Associations.

A man of vivacious personality and enthusiasm for new techniques, he worked actively for cooperation between the six copyright libraries.

DR HENRY KAPLAN

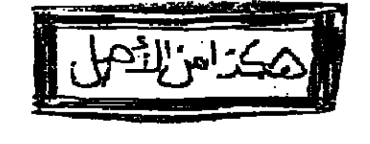
Dr Henry S. Kaplan, whose work on cancer therapy included a decisive breakthrough in the search for a cure for Hodgkin's disease, died at his home at Stanford University, California, on February 18. He was 65 and had himself been suffering from cancer for some time.

Kaplan, who helped to create the Stanford University Medical Center as a leader in its field, was the coinventor of the medical linear accelerator which is used to generate radiation for various forms of cancer therapy.

He went on, in association with Dr Saul Rosenburg and others, to devise a diagnosis and treatment for Hodgkin's disease.

The latter, combining radiation, chemotherapy and surgery completely altered the outlook for Hodgkin's sufferers, giving 80 per cent curability in what had been previously a fatal illness.

Mr Harry Fairchild, OBE, Under-Treasurer at Lincoln's Inn from 1947 to 1967, died on February 12.



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Generating jobs

A SPECIAL REPORT

In 1980 the Special Programmes Unit started work with powerful, locally based employers to improve job prospects for young people. This five page special report marks its progress



Stephen Johnson

James Cooke foresees disaster: a rise in unemployment over the next three to four years to nearly four million, including one million youngsters heading for the scrap-heap, or as near it as makes no difference.

Cooke is not a politician or a left-wing economist trying to put the Government through a wringer. What makes his predictions the more disturbing is that he has no axes to grind; indeed he is a man appointed with the backing of Whitehall itself to help solve, or at least ameliorate, youth unemployment. The Confederation of British Industry Special Programmes Unit was set up in 1980 at the bidding of the Manpower Services Commission to help market youth employment programmes to the country's big employers. Cooke, its chief executive, doesn't believe you can do that by fudging the issues.

"Britain is at both a structural and an economic cross roads," he says. "We have the likelihood of very severe youth unemployment. We have a period of hiatus of at least three to five years whilst, hopefully, the economy picks up. Unless we get local employer groups *owning* that problem throughout the country and therefore collaborating fully with government measures and aiming to try and help their local economy pick up quicker, I very much fear that the period of *hiatus* is too long and that the social problems will become too bad."



This concept – ownership of the problem – is a favourite of Cooke's. Finding jobs for one million youngsters looks impossible, pure pie in the sky. But break the figures down locally and the problem is more manageable:

"Problems which look completely unanswerable at a macro level become vey much more resolvable at a local level," says Cooke.

In 1981 its first full year, the unit put together a board which included such luminaries as the heads of Metal Box, International Thomson, Thorn EMI, Wimpey, BP and the Post Office and drafted secondees from the big companies who were what Norman Mills (Cooke's "number two", seconded from BATs) calls self-motivating mavericks. They became high-powered fixers and nobblers, cutting through red tape and protocol to get at those who could get things moving.

Its remit at that stage was modest and straightforward – a simple push, over a 12 month period, to get the leading employers in the land committed to helping the Youth Opportunities Programme which, until then, had been largely dominated by companies employing 20 or less which were, frankly, looking for cheap labour.

In the course of that year Cooke himself spoke to the chairmen of most of the leading companies and came to some important conclusions:

"We found that companies care in a mathematically discrete fashion: number one about themselves; number two about their employees (and you can assume that in most parts of Britain one in four of the average company's employees will have a kid leaving school who won't get a job in the next year or so – so they care about something very close to home); and, thirdly, they care about their patch. It really is quite astonishing how you can talk to Reckitt & Coleman about, say, Reading, and they'll wonder what the hell you're talking about, but talk about Hull and Reckitt & Coleman will do everything they can to help."

"In most of the cities we're involved in we are forecasting cumulative youth unemployment of somewhere between 40 and 70 per cent: this means that in a place like Tyneside we could well have 35,000 or more youngsters who've been unemployed for any length up to five years, within the next five years."

To his astonishment, Cooke found that there were no forecasts in Britain of unemployment at a local level. He initiated several studies, the fist at Redditch, Preston and Southwark. These confirmed the view that companies were willing to give their support, but also showed an even more serious youth unemployment problem than anyone had imagined. In Redditch, Preston and Southwark cumulative youth unemployment was standing at 74 per cent, 66 per cent and 42 per cent respectively.

"That gave us pause for thought. Here we all are moaning about 16 or 19 per cent or whatever, but percentages like 74 per cent – that's a different ball game."

Cooke initiated the Community Action Programmes, groups of local business leaders committed to problem solving.

"We discovered several things when you get boards like that together: the first thing was that they'd never met before – that there isn't a network anywhere in Britain where businessmen get together to look at their local community problems that has teeth; and that once they started really owning the problem, because they were also unaware of the scale of it, they then started clamouring for what the ought to do about it."

There are now some 25 CAPs, each of them led by top industrialists such as Gordon Brunton, managing director of International Thomson (Neath), Lord Polwarth of the Bank of Scotland (Borders) and Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN (Birmingham).

One of the principal aims of the CAPs has been to support the Youth Training Scheme, but Cooke thinks those goals must be taken much further.

"Unless we pick up two things I believe the Youth Training Scheme could well come unstuck, and I also think we could be in a situation where the whole effort could look a little pointless. In most of the cities we're involved in we're forecasting cumulative youth unemployment of somewhere between 40 and 70 per cent; this means that in a place like Tyneside we could well have 35,000 or more youngsters who've been unemployed for any length up to five years, within the next five years.

"So the first worry is what happens to the youngsters at the end of the YTS period. Because if we're right, then unacceptably large numbers of them will go on the dole. And so, through the CAPs . . . we're trying to develop pilot programmes for the second year."

Areas being examined include job-sharing and value added training.

"By that I mean programmes for a second year that are sufficiently commercially attractive that companies will do them in their own right. You can teach a youngster the basics of secretarial work and I don't think they'll get a job. But teach them the bones of secretarial work and then give them a hands-on experience programme for a second year where they're taught to put a firm's VAT, cashflow and payroll on a simple micro . . . it's been done in Bristol; they've all got jobs."

Secondly, Cooke hopes for a series of business initiatives to underpin the local economy – every thing from new enterprise workshops, like the one set up by British American Tobacco which has helped create 80 new companies, through "buy local" campaigns and work creation projects, to schemes to inject managerial expertise into smaller companies to help them to grow.

The CAPs are vital to the work of the Special Programmes Unit, but only part of it. The CBI-SPU staff, including 30 senior executives seconded from leading companies, see themselves as Mr Fixits, ready to cajole industrialists into employing youth. The record of the last three years is formidable:

- Creation of 35,000 work experience places in 1981 (equivalent to 40 per cent of all new places that year).
- Creation of 10,000 pilot 12-month training places in 1982.
- A national programme of 80 conferences for local employers in 1983.

But is it all enough? Cooke doesn't underestimate the size of the problem But he believes that if local industry responds the worst may be avoided.

What would he regard as success?

"I would be looking as a number one target to try and get much more of an injection of management skills into helping pick up the economy," he says cautiously. "In terms of what all that could mean – well, the MSC are hoping that some 50 per cent of youngsters this year will get jobs. If we could take that figure up to 60 per cent or 70 per cent that would be an achievement."

Malcolm Brown

On other pages

Towards the end of the Eighties: the frightening figures of young people likely to be looking for work

Is buying British an answer?

Community Action Programmes (CAPs), of which the Confederation of British Industry Special Programs Unit (SPU) had half a dozen in operation by the middle of 1982, now number 26. Another dozen are planned and likely to be operating within two years or not much more.

CAPs bring together key business leaders, local authority heads and other important local figures to maximize local youth employment prospects, linking with government measures like the Youth Training Scheme (YTS). As CAPs have developed they have become a new form of local economic institution, reaching out to improve overall local economic performance. A common denominator is that all face tricky unemployment problems. The aim has been to set up a CAP in any travel-to-work area with an unemployment rate of more than 12 per cent and an employee population of 100,000 or more.

Allied to the broad strategy of tackling the worst-hit areas are the array of government, and local authority, grants and schemes which are a collective response to unemployment problems. But within the broad framework there are many local differences to tackle which to be successful means developing a specifically local response.

The CAPs are predominantly in key cities and towns. These include Tyneside, Leeds, Hull, Preston, Rochdale, Oldham, Lincoln, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Coventry, Oxford, Luton, Bridgwater, Plymouth and in London, the Southwark area. But they are also in the Borders area, in Anglesey and north Norfolk, where the rural



nature of the territory introduces its own particular problems because of reliance on often a limited number of local industries. One of the most recent CAPs set up is in the Mendips group of towns.

Surveys made to estimate, however approximately, the cumulative effect of schools leavers not getting substantive jobs indicated how far problems differed from place to place. In Leeds the number of school leavers jobless and needing help was expected by the end of 1987 to have risen by rather more than three times. It appeared to be the same in Hull. In Luton, heavily reliant on motor manufacturing, a slighly lesser increase of 278 per cent expected. On Tyneside with its long history of high unemployment levels, an increase of just over 160 per cent was anticipated. The Border [illegible] 245 per cent.

The problem everywhere is securing for young people not only initial work experience, such as under the one-year YTS, but subseqently to get their feet more firmly on the work ladder. Mr James Cooke, chief executive of the special programes unit pointed out that the importance of the surveys was not so much the figures adduced as the momentum they gave to CAP boards in determining to tackle their individual area problems.

He said: "It is one thing to tackle the problems of an are like the Borders. The reliance there is on textiles and agriculture. The actual numbers of youth unemployment are small. So the reaction of a number of small businesses to broaden the industrial base could see the problem licked."

But he went on: "It is different at the other end of the spectrum in the big cities. Setting up small businesses plays a part. But even to begin to tackle the problems you need a great cluster of experimentations and ideas. The forecasts made are merely indicative. They make no allowance for job turnover rates or labour mobility. But it is hard to find large numbers of new jobs in the offing that are applicable to school leavers."

Now sufficient YTS places [illegible] been found, Mr Cooke wants to see that achievement consolidated, initially by reinforcing the quality of the scheme's operation. This strategy led to the idea of setting up a chain of more than 100 management executive workshops bringing together those who in each locality are managing agents for Manpower Services Commission. Some 45 of these are now operating.

Half a dozen times a year common problems can be discussed, experience shared on systems that have proved successful and new ideas tested. SPU has also set up an information centre as a communications link for good ideas to be disseminated around the country. Mr Cooke would like to see an extension to give the information centre a European and even international dimension. The Dutch, for instance, are further ahead in exploring



James Cooke: more experiments, more ideas

work-sharing and recasting the working week. France has been doing advanced work on value-added training, achieving a more productive end result training.

Mr Cooke said: "It's crazy that we do not know in detail what has been discovered in these continental efforts. It could well be better psychologically not for one youngster to have a full-time job but for two to have a job, and half a wage each. Youngsters primarily want a job. I am sure: the financial reward is secondary to that."

Another way to capitalize on the YTS would be to use the CAP machinery to experiment in finding ways to give post-YTS youngsters a better chance of continuing useful employment. Mr Cooke said: "Placement is crucial yet how many companies, with those they cannot offer jobs after the YTS year, recommend on the youngsters they have found to be effective? Big companies often place between 80 per cent and all their YTS youngsters but there is room for other companies to do the same thing."

He went on: "The more experience a youngster has, the more saleable in market place he or she becomes. Adding more value to the training in the year after YTS is crucial whether it is through job-sharing or more job-specific training."

One successful idea has been to give youngsters house maintenance skills which can be exploited in city centre areas which offer jobbing builders slim chances of a commercial return. The other emerging aspect of SPU strategy is to get the CAP boards to improve the business climate overall at local level.

New businesses, he emphasises, are a necessary part of any attempt to improve local business situations. Every borough, he maintains, should have a new enterprise workshop – a concept under which a big local company guarantees a workshops scheme and then rents off the nursery units, usually with secretarial and other sevices built in on a group basis. Often companies, especially those family-owned, reached a turnover between £1m and £2m and get stuck in a groove, largely through lack of business expertise. The experience of those on the CAP network can provide such expertise.

Mr Cook said: "Such a company through incompetence might otherwise crash. Say that creates 400 redundancies. It would take five years probably to replace those jobs. So saving them by helping the company find its right road makes good sense. There have been cases where the right investment and introduction of flexible manufacturing has doubled a company's production."

Mr Cooke also favours a buy British campaign with a sharp focus at the grass roots level. Companies getting components from abroad could look constructively and conscientiously to see how far local component manufacturers might, with the right investment and machinery be able to supply such components.

He also believes that big companies, with product ideas researched but never likely to be followed up, be prepared to allow smaller companies to take them up, with the big company taking royalty payments.

Derek Harris

Employers must get together

The Special Programmes Unit of the Confederation of British Industry has discovered that there is a startling lack of information about local business conditions. It found that no local forecasts of employment or investment strategies existed and that often little information was available from private sector employers about resource opportunities, strengths or requirements. Moreover, companies in the same town appeared to know little about each other; senior executives rarely met, except, possibly, to argue about the rates.

It was felt that the size of the problem must be determined before employers could contribute to an initiative to create jobs. Accordingly, in March 1981, PA Management Consultants was commissioned (with the financial backing of the National Westminster Bank) to test whether it was possible to assess the likely scale of unemployment over the next few years on a local basis, and to consider the potential for community action. From this base, unit executives working with PA have developed methods, questionnaires and strategy papers which can be used as guides for individual organizers to produce their own surveys.

The PA Town Studies report examined Redditch, Preston and Southwark – chosen as areas most likely to represent different aspects of unemployment. Since then, a further 22 studies have been made from local bases and 12 areas have completed their reports.

But by the middle of 1982, the first five studies had endorsed the earlier findings. Not only did none of the towns have employment forecasts, but no local structure existed whereby business people could tackle the difficulties.

The reports also underlined the PA discovered that wide discrepancies existed between the likely fortunes of different localities. The percentage of 16 to 18-year-olds without work in Southwark two years after the survey period was expected to reach about 42 per cent. In Redditch, 74 per cent. This reinforced the conclusion that different degrees of remedy as well as different tactics were needed.

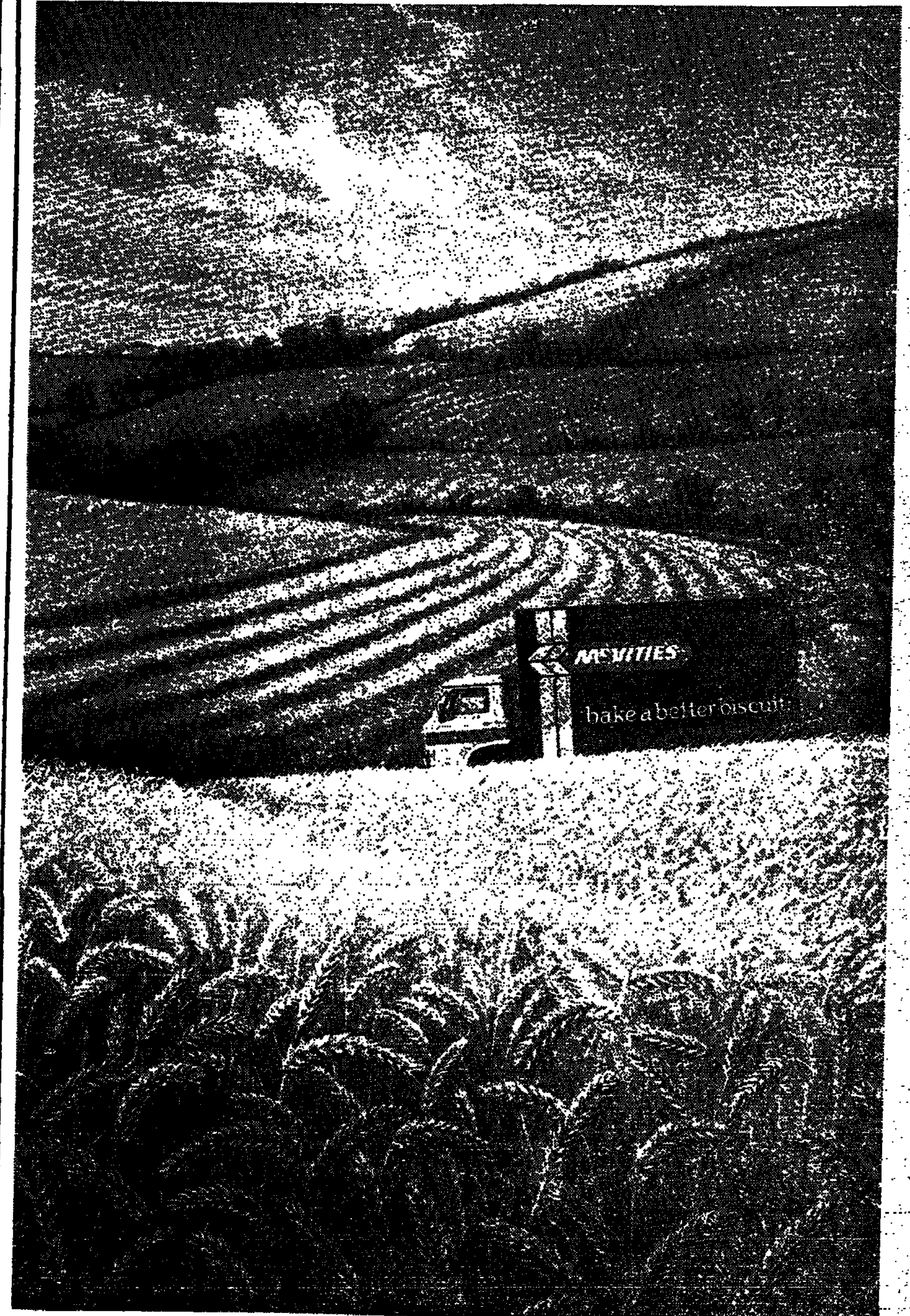
Eliciting and compiling employment forecasts proved far from easy, even when those questioned were guaranteed that their information would be confidential. The Tynesi Community Action Programme, for example, reported that many of the organizations in their area were not prepared to forecast future recruitment levels, although responses on capacity and expected business growth provided a strong indication that recruitment would continue to decline.

The Tyneside CAP team staffed by people seconded from Northern Engineering Industries, the Northumberland Water Authority, Procter and Gamble, and Vickers developed their own two-page questionnaire after guidance from the London-based CBI-SPU office. This was submitted to 140 major Tyneside employers but completed by only 80. Despite the difficulties, a 58-page report was completed and published by July, 1983.

At Hull the entire CAP programme nearly foundered because a preliminary report was considered to have been based on inadequate analysis of information. The project was, however, rescued as a result of some of the participant company representatives voicing both their disquiet and their rapidly falling interest. The final version, published in March 1983, not only showed a prospect of escalating unemployment, but revealed that many employers were unaware of the Youth Training Scheme proposals. "Publication of the report captured attention", Mr Bill Black, Director of J. H. Fenner (Holdings) and chairman of the Hull CAP commented. "From a situation where it appeared unlikely that sufficient YTS places would be obtained, there was a significant over-provision"

Apart from providing vital information for planners, compilation of the local business studies offer an immediate task on which the newly formed

Continued on page 3









Putting Neath trainees to work: left, rebuilding a church wall centre, clearing ground at the Marina, and above, Howell Britton advises a computer beginner.

Pictures by Steve Baubow

Neath: a case history of a town fighting back/Tim Jones reports

A bustle and fizz in the air

Until recently, the largest concentration of waterfalls in the United Kingdom tumbled in lonely splendour towards the sea. Cascading in a charge of white spray, the Lady Falls were a delight seen only by the few who braved the steep valley slope through bracken and bramble. But now the 14 waterfalls can be enjoyed by everyone for the good reason that they are accessible from the road by a safe and gentle path which can even accommodate pushchairs.

The four mile gravel path is part of a larger story which demonstrates that when will combines with expertise a small town, ravaged by recession, can fight back. There is now a bustle and fizz in the air of Neath, West Glamorgan, which contrasts sharply with the despondent mood of hopelessness which pervaded the borough in the late 1970s.

Then, the recession bit deep. Coal and steel, economic backbones of the community, declined and major local employers retrenched to survive the gathering storm. Big companies, attracted initially to the area by special government status, shed men like leaves in an autumn gale and the gloom was compounded when that status was stripped away.

In the town whose solid Labour tradition had given it a reputation for industrial militancy which does not stand up to close examination, just ten employers accounted for two thirds of the jobs. Between 1977 and 1981, 4,300 people or 16 per cent of the workforce was registered as unemployed.

Companies reported they would have to continue cutting back until, by the end of last year, it was estimated almost one in four would be out of work.

In effect, Neath was almost a microcosm of the British economy, declining and ill prepared to adapt to meet the realities of a harsher, competitive world.

Howell Britton, chairman of the council's industry committee, said: "There we were, a town on the periphery of the UK economy that had been deprived of special status just when we needed it. The decline was hard to take because it had happened so quickly." The basis for the fight back was formulated in a special study of the town, sponsored by the Thomson Organisation Ltd., one of the leading companies associated with the Special Programmes Unit established by the CBI.

Gordon Brunton, chief executive of the International Thomson Organisation and a director of the special unit, was convinced that to tackle the problem of Neath and other towns, more had to be done than merely to support the short-term palliatives of the Youth Opportunity Scheme.

In short, the town, while hustling for all the external aid it could get, had to help itself and his company decided to offer practical assistance. One advantage was that although Thomsons owned the local newspaper, it was not a major employer and felt therefore that it could take an independent stance.

After the three month study was completed in August 1981, it was presented to Neath Borough Council, who accepted the formation of the Neath Development Partnership. Two conditions were immediately accepted. It would be non-political and only those who could work hard or contribute would be chosen as members.

The suspicion that lingered

From that loose knit development, the partnership has evolved into the Neath Development Partnership Enterprize Limited and it has eight constituent members. From the private sector they are: International Thomson Organization, Metal Box, British Peroleum and P.A. Management Consultants. The public sector is represented by Neath Borough Council and the West Glamorgan County Council and the other members are the Wales TUC and the Welsh Development Agency.

Initially, the private sector initiative, in a town that did not return even one Tory representative, was treated with suspicion by some councillors. Two ideologies were combining and although the cause was common for some, the pill took a little time to dissolve.

The welding of the two sides into a totally non-political force working for the town was helped considerably in the early stages with the nomination by Metal Box, another supporter of the CBI unit, of Mr Britton, who is also a AUEW convenor.

He is now part of a small team, headed by Mr Jeremy Filmer-Bennett of Thomsons, who are turning into reality the objectives of the town study.

Authoritative analysis had forecast that 22.4 per cent of the population would be out of work by the end of 1983, but the figure is now 15.2 per cent, compared with 16 per cent for the whole of the principality. Male unemployment is scarcely worse than for the rest of Britain, although the figures for females are worse.

Since the partnership began, 400 permanent new jobs have been created and there are confident predictions that another 400 will materialize this year. Some of those placements have come from the 500 people who have benefitted from various Manpower Services Commission schemes.

The first step was carefully to pick people who were doers rather than talkers. The philosophy as expressed by Filmer-Bennett was simple: "If you have nothing to bring you can't come to the picnic."

With the team assembled, incorporating as it does the knowledge and ability to chase whatever government and private money is available, the partnership set about its work.

There was a realisation that no magic sponge would emerge in the form of a new major employer, so the development partnership set about establishing small business units.

More than 80 older, unemployed men using money from the Community Enterprise Programme started a number of schemes, including the refurbishing of the old Mettoy warehouse.

This has now become the Lonlas Village Workshops and since it was opend in June 1982, more than 40 units have been taken, creating over 100 permanent jobs. Because of careful vetting and an expert advisory service, occupancy levels have taken less than half the time with other agencies and remarkably there have been no failures to date, in spite of the fact that tenants are charged the full economic rent.

Two other developments, Glynneath Workshops and 12 starter units at the Neath Abbey Businesss Park are now being let and a private developer is promoting similar premises near the town centre.

The intial survey indicated that Neath was being by-passed in the use of new technology. Action was swift and Metal Box and the borough council sponsored and information technology centre in the town. The first batch of 30 students left last September and 27 of them went either into permanent jobs or to advanced university courses. This year, there are 40 students at the Centre and there are plans to establish a Micro Technology Development Company.

Neath does not leap to the lips when tourism is talked of, although more than 170,000 people visit the area each year. Most of them visit the privately owned and imaginative Penscynor Wildlife Park. John Carr, the business development director, believes his integrated tourism plan can swell that figure to perhaps 600,000 a year.

Historic and under-promoted antiquities like Neath Abbey already exist, while the Forestry Commission is beginning to open up the 42,000 acre Rheola Forest to the public.

From Roman monuments to industrial revolution iron works, the area provides a treasure of architectural interests which are being incorporated into a comprehensive package. This will include a dry ski slope, a 90 berth marina, youth hostel, chalet and caravan park, information centres and well defined country walks.

Under the direction of 38 supervisors, the 400 manual workers have already completed 21 projects ranging from the restoration of a church to landscaping a once ugly tip. This year, they hope to complete another 20 tasks.

As the partnership progresses, working closely with government agencies and with anyone who has something to offer, the target it set itself of creating 1,000 permanent jobs appears to be on the near horizon. And they will have been achieved at a cost to the Government of less than £2m, which in terms of today's capital intensive industrial developments, represents good value for money.

Firms must cooperate

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CAP teams can work together. The survey process also concentrates the attention of the recipients of questionnaires on the difficulties of their particular community. The likelihood is that second and subsequent questionnaires would receive a better response than the first.

Certainly, a radical change in attitudes, typical of experiences in other participating areas, is illustrated by Mr Black's account. "The most important achievement so far is that the spirit of cooperation is now more evident than at any time in the past", he said. "Many employers in Hull didn't even speak to one another. That has disappeared. The civic heads are more co-operative with businessmen than they have ever been. Hull is determined to help itself to overcome its problems – an attitude that was noticeably absent during the period of the survey".

Face-to-facemeetings are equally important. More than 80 conferences, most of them attended by 100 or more employer representatives have been organized in the past year either specifically to discuss survey reports, or to consider local unemployment generally.

Starting with the nomination of a senior executive of a leading local employer as chairman, the programme of conferences, meetings and visits is repeated as often as is necessary in order to meet the local target for training places.

The focus during the next 12 months will move progressively towards providing more permanent occupation for youth trainees. In the Luton area, where a comparatively early CAP scheme started in April 1982, Vauxhall, the leading local employer, has already announced its intention to fund an extra year of training for people on their Youth Training intake who have not got jobs by the age of 17. But a variety of pilot measures, and experiments relating to job sharing, new shift arrangements, further education and promotion of government employment subsidies are being discussed.

A study of the extent of local employment problems has inevitably led many of the surveyors to look at potential solutions, even though they may not consider them to be strictly within their terms of reference. In setting up the mechanism to produce local business studies "we achieved more than we understood", James Cooke.

Patricia Tisdall

Offering a friendly hand

Having met the immediate objective of persuading employers to offer temporary training places, several of the Community Action Programme boards are starting to examine ways of creating permanent jobs. In the 1960s the big retailers pioneered with considerable success a form of job-sharing in order to stay open on Saturdays. More recently, organizations like GEC have been experimenting ith job-sharing specifically to alleviate youth unemployment.

Largely as a result of the GEC initiative, a government grant designed to encourage employers to split jobs was introduced last year. The grant offers £750 to an employer for each job which is "split" and for which an elegible recruit is employed.

The GEC pilot sphere, introduced in Coventry in June 1981, involved school-leavers, who were required to attend a specially commissioned course of study at the local technical college for one of their non-working days. However, the job-sharing concept is also seen as potentially useful for adults who may want to work part-time to ease themselves into retirement or to bring up children.

In practice, the take-up has been disappointing. A study produced by Incomes Data Services reported that three months after the introduction only 398 part-time jobs had resulted from 9,000 inquiries by employers. One company told IDS that it was put off the scheme because local colleges did not repeat "day-release" courses during the week. Since the company wanted job-splitters to go to college on their "non-working" days, only half of them could attend the most suitable courses. Other employers complained that participation would force them to recruit a lower calibre of applicant than they would normally.

Employers working collectively at grassroots, rather than head-office, level are much better placed not only to indentify government assistance which relates to their area but also to resolve snags in its implementation. A guide compiled by Peat Marwick Mitchell has identified more than 300 different government grants which are available to companies.

In designing its New Enterprise Workshops scheme, which started at Toxteth, Liverpool, in May 1982, BAT Industries was able to build on the experience of other organizations, such as the British Steel Corporation, in encouraging businesses to develop by providing small, low-cost workshops. The unique contribution of the BAT Industries' Small Businesses subsidiary was to design a method of harnessing tax allowances and subsidies so as to make the workshop project virtually self-financing. By negotiating a lease-back arrangement with the Lombard North Centre Bank, BAT was able to offset its previously unused industrial building allowance against the £750,000 cost of converting an un-used dockyard shed into 60 small workshops.

Mr Alleyne Reynolds, managing director of BAT Industries Small Businesses, explains that while his company guarantees the rent to Lombard, this is covered by incoming rents from the tenants. Individual workshop rents are geared to the local going-rate but are offered on an "easy-in easy-out" monthly basis so that tenants do not have to make a heavy financial commitment before they can set up in business. There are, moreover, on-site management services available that offer central security, cleaning, administration, marketing and other facilities.

Mr Reynolds and his colleagues have been sufficiently encouraged by their experiences at Toxteth, which not only directly provides about 300 jobs, but has also encouraged the local community to embark on a second scheme. This involves converting the disused Bon Marché department store at Brixton, London, into a mixed development of about 100 workshops, retail units and offices. The first units, located at the High Street front of the Brixton building, are scheduled to be ready for occupation in May and the rest later this year.

A video programme describing the workshop project was made by a Liverpool producing company and shown to BAT's own employees. However, it has proved so popular with external organizations, including the CBI-SPU unit, that a further 40 copies and an abridged version dealing specifically with financing have been made.

Measures to prevent collapses and methods of encouraging the growth of existing businesses are also being examined by the special programmes unit. "We have come across companies with thousands of pounds held on current account at the bank and earning no interest", Mr Cooke says, giving one example of unbusiness-like methods. Another he quotes is the works manager who does not even know where the heating boiler is located, let alone its energy consumption. "If we can save a single company with 150 employees from going under, we are achieving the equivalent of an entire new workshop project", Mr Cooke asserts.

A specific method by which large organizations may be able to help smaller ones is by releasing to them the fruits of research and development programmes on products which the originating companies find they cannot themselves manufacture economically.

A desire to help smaller organizations benefit from its £65m a year research budget prompted British Telecom to set up its technology consultancy scheme about two years ago. Still in an experimental stage, this makes material available at a nominal fee to companies that cannot afford to fund their own research.

British Telecom is also investigating the potential for "hooking out" products which arise incidentally from research into other areas. Scientists frequently discover by-products which are ancilliary to the main direction of their programmes – plastic-coating methods discovered while examining metal was one example offered by British Telecom. Large organizations frequently shelve such inventions if they have no direct application for themselves.

Most people accept that there is not likely to be any single answer to the question of job creation – at least for the forseeable future – and that unemployment is likely to remain a significant social issue. By experimenting with a variety of projects, industrialists have already moved a long way from the attitudes expressed to a PA Management Consultancy team in 1981 which were broadly expressed as "My job is to secure more orders. This will provide a sound future for the company, which will in turn provide more jobs".

Patricia Tisdall

Call in the flying squad

Business in the Community (BIC), backed by more than 60 organizations, two thirds of them mostly the big blue chip companies, was launched in early 1981 to give a lead to the local enterprise agency movement. This movement started in 1978, a response to the problem of unemployment and the need to promote businesses, particularly new ones.

Now there are about 150 around the country and Mr David Trippier, the Minister for Small Businesses, wants to see this number double to about 300 within three years. Even though he believes the majority of agencies have been a success, with none so far fallen by the wayside, he is anxious about quality because he believes it is the effective agency which can be a leader in getting a community to pull itself up by its boot straps. This ministerial drive behind the agency movement underlines the importance of BIC whose chief executive, Mr Stephen O'Brien, sees it as "a kind of crusade for corporate social responsibility."

There are estimated to be some 1,700 companies, large and small, extending some form of help to enterprise agencies around the country. Usually local authorities are also involved although Mr Trippier has reservations about too dominant a role being played by them. If directors of agencies come from local government there is a danger of simply extending bureaucracy, he believes.

But in many agencies both big national companies and local companies second executives to help run agencies and often offer counselling help for new and expanding companies. It is a chance for younger executives to get wider experience and, for those nearing retirement, to pass on their experience and expertise.

A fresh spate of companies have been joining BIC in recent months, according to Mr O'Brien. About another 50 agencies are now in prospect, some at the discussion stage. He is nevertheless worried that some agencies could be facing difficulties. He said: "It is relatively easy for a new agency. There is great enthusiasm and everybody flocks round with support. But establishing agencies has clearly proved more glamorous to sponsoring companies than continuing support."

To help with this problem BIC has set up a unit which acts as a "flying squad" available by invitation to mount a special marketing campaign for individual agencies. But BIC has also warned the Government that, while attracting more companies to the cause can assist with funding, more resources are desirable from the public sector.

One channel is urban renewal money. BIC can also draw on a "pump priming" fund for agencies worth £75,000 for the current financial year. Up to £2,000 can go to assist a newly-formed agency, provided there is no other assistance from the Department of Trade and Industry. There is some financing possible for agency directors to attend a business school course and to put together publicity material.

The supply of able secondees also seems to be drying up, Mr O'Brien warns. This probably reflects the increased demands within the agency movement, he adds. A substantial proportion of secondments still come from not much more than a score of big companies.

Enterprise agencies are playing an increasingly important role in rural areas as well as the more obvious focus provided by towns and cities. There are a number now in the West Country and Wales as well as areas like the Isle of Wight. Nests of small workshops can reduce reliance on agriculture and businesses can be developed to provide services in nearby towns. Now there are so many different sources of funds for small business start-ups and expansion it is becoming increasingly important for enterprise agency staffs to know their way around the market place. To help with this BIC is about to start a series of "no frills" conferences.

BIC is now setting up a regional structure to help promote an increase in the numbr of agencies, as well as offering more help to those already operating. A new arm of BIC, created last November, is City of London Busiess in the Community, aimed at persuading the City's financial institutions to put resources into agencies or other voluntary initiatives in inner city areas. Mr O'Brien said: "Already companies with little or no tradition of involvement in this work are coming forward."

City of London BIC has its own governing council and seconded staff. Executive director is Mr Neville Bedford, seconded from the Bank of England. It is the same pattern with Scottish Business in the Community which is supported by more than 40 leading companies and organizations. Last year eight local enterprise trusts were set up with ScotBIC help in urban areas renging in size from Glenrothes to Glasgow. By the end of this year another 14 partnerships are expected to be in operation. Some 400 local companies will by then be involved in this enterprise agency work around Scotland.

There is a wider organizational question which is now being explored in talks between BIC and the Confederation of British Industry Special Programmes Unit (SPU). Most of the big company backers of the two organizations are the same. There is also the question of how far the work of the two organizations overlap. By Easter a report is expected on whether the two should merge.

Under examination also is whether there should be a closer working relationship with the Action Resource Centre which has specialized in organizing seconding of experienced business executives. Mr O'Brien believes that after the phase of myriads of business – aid organizations being set up, there is a natural second phase of structural change to make such work more effective.

Derek Harris

Tapping local knowledge

The early days of the Youth Opportunities Programme, set up in 1978 as the unemployment shadows lengthened, saw the main response come from small companies with fewer than 20 employees.

"Possibly 40 to 50 per cent of YOP places were just cheap labour," recalls James Cooke, chief executive of the Confederation of British Industry's special programme unit. He went on: "Moreover at the localized level there were no forecasts of likely unemployment trends, nor of investment inventions by companies or strategies to meet the problems. Britain was flying blind."

This was the situation in 1980, when the CBI group was set up at the behest of the Department of Employment and the Manpower Services Commission. The aim was to involve the big employers in the Government employment measures and give the MSC an extra management arm which could also help in the formulation of strategy.

By 1981, the fruits of the CBI initiative were showing through. The number of work experience places for youngsters grew by about a quarter to around 500,000 and, of this additional growth, the confederation was able to claim the creation of some 40 per cent of the new places. This amounted to upwards of 35,000 places.

The following year 10,000 pilot one-year training places had also been created.

In the earlier years of the youth schemes 85 per cent of youngsters were going on to get jobs but as the unemployment queues lengthened this proportion inevitably shrunk. Nevertheless some 35 per cent are still getting jobs, Mr Cooke points out.

The Cooke target roughly speaking had been the top 200 companies. There was a lot of localized expertise to be tapped in the CBI's regional structure. The relative ignorance among big companies about the Government's youth initiatives could be breached quickly enough, producing an immediate groundswell of support.

The early priority was to find out what was happening on the ground, to produce local employment forecasts and the likely duration of such problems – particularly as it concerns youngsters. Most companies and regions shares a depressing view of employment prospects over a three year period, especially for the young unskilled, the CBI group found.

The other question was to see how far employers could be encouraged to shoulder responsibility for local problems and, it was hoped, take more advantage of the MSC programmes.

The first town studies showed what a wide discrepancy there was between localities. Forecasts of unemployment among school leavers varied between 42 per cent and 74 per cent – again emphasizing the need to tackle problems on a local basis. Localized community action programmes were seen as the catalyst in seeking answers to these problems.

Setting up such a programme was recognized as a time-consuming and exacting operation and certainly not a magic wand that would somehow bring instant results. The full commitment of key local businessmen was seen as crucial.

It meant squeezing every advantage out of the business contacts network of members of the CBI group's board and the top regional officials of the CBI. Staff in the field added their muscle to that of Mr Cooke and his London-based team.

The drive was to involve the key local managers running their own companies who could act decisively rather than attracting those with a softer focus such as representatives of national and regional organizations. This was not easy because such local managers were busy men.

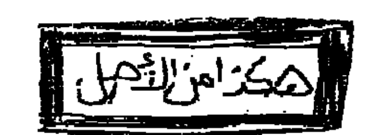
It was seen as crucial that local authority chief executives were directly involved together with the MSO usually in the person of the regional manpower services director.

By mid-1982, with six local programmes started as well as three town studies made, the group had learned about setting up employer groups and managing them and was satisfied that the work was valuable if only as a support for the MSC. But Whitehall was already talking of developing the Youth Training Scheme, the successor to YOP, through a large number of local initiatives. The group demonstrated that it could show how this could be done.

This was the extra dynamic behind the subsequent growth of the programme and at the same time their aims were refined. The main vehicle was seen as a supervisory board, assessment of employer resources was necessary as well as the extent of the youth employment problems likely to be faced, taking usually a five-year view. That way there was an increasing chance of a realistic input to Whitehall to help produce a Government policy founded, as the CBI group's report put it, "on the realities of the mid-1980s work-place" and looking to conditions likely to occur towards the end of the century.

A strong supervisory board chairman, with members committed to achieving success locally, was seen as one key element for any successful local programme. The importance of secondees to help push through programmes was underlined, the main sources for them being large companies, local authorities and public bodies like the police.

D.M.



'Cheap labour' fear that won't go away

Youth training: where have the recruits gone?

The London Chamber of Commerce's youth training scheme, Enterprise Training, ought to have been a roaring success. Three training centres, staffed by full time professionals, were set up in Acton, Waterloo and Bethnal Green. They offered just the kind of skills now in constant demand: keyboard training, computer literacy, word processing, the fundamentals of import and export.

Last summer the chamber was planning for an autumn start, leading to a build up to 1,000 training places by June 1984: trainees would get 13 weeks of training at one of the centres and 39 weeks of work experience provided by London firms.

That was the theory. By now, 675 trainees should have been signed on. The scheme has attracted less than a third of that number. It is a pattern which is being repeated in many schemes around the country.

Staff at the chamber blame three main factors. First, children (and often their parents and teachers) think the scheme is just a variation of the old Youth Opportunities Programme, which provided no training and was treated by many employers as simply a means of getting cheap labour. Second, money: many school leavers feel they will get as much, or more, on the dole. Finally, there are more jobs available than was predicted (which may be good for those who get them but is not such good news for organizations setting up schemes at the behest of the Manpower Services Commission only to find that the demand is not there.)

Lindsay Phillips, seconded from IBM to help the chamber's effort, is disturbed: he believes that quite apart from those who are registered as still without work there are a great number of children in London who have slipped through the net.

He says: "I don't know why we're not getting them but I suspect it's first of all because the young people don't know about it and their peer groups and the youth club leaders and I suspect a lot of the people in the school, particularly Inner London Education Authority schools, are not in favour of it. There are some school people very interested, but generally the school people have been lukewarm."

Phillips contacted the CBI special programmes unit. It is still very early days, and Phillips and his staff do not think that the unit is some kind of cavalry which will ride to the rescue and solve everyone's problems overnight.

Phillips says: "One of the areas that they think they can help us in is to get the managing agents together to put pressure on the education authorities, to allow us access to the kids in the schools so we can provide them with the sort of information about what is available in YTS. We don't feel that either the youngsters or their parents have the information at the moment."

Paying money every day

Phillips is also pleased by the work being done by one of the CBI unit's secondees, who has been doing the rounds of the careers offices in London.

But he does not think these initiatives alone are going to turn around the situation overnight: He would also like help from the unit in getting a number of people on secondment to help directly with the chamber's programme.

What bothers James Cooke, the CBI unit's chief executive, is that if schemes are not filled quickly then many will lose too much money to survive. Phillips does not think the chamber has reached danger point yet.

"We've already committed the resources in terms of premises, people and equipment. We've gone and bought all our equipment, rented our premises, hired our staff to cope with the level of trainees we were expecting. We've made that commitment and we're paying money out now, every day; so every day that we're under strength on trainees we've got expenditure at the level we expected but we've only got an income at 30 per cent of that. This obviously is a cause for tremendous concern".

The chamber is now trying to attract *employed* youngsters under the YTS provisions on a day release basis; this would help to ease the financial position, but it is a far cry from the original intentions.

Cooke believes the London Chamber of Commerce's problems demonstrate the value of the CBI unit as a flexible group of trouble shooters. Staff he has asked to chew over the problem include secondees from the Midland Bank, Beechams, Unilever and BP.

Cooke also believes the chamber's experience provides a first class case history which will be valuable in a project which the CBI unit is planning for 1984. The unit had already become aware of the need to market directly to the young and their parents much more forcibly than has been done in the past and London has been chosen as a pilot area. It is coordinating a series of conferences involving the MSC, careers service, teachers, media representatives and local authorities for parents and school leavers. More than 100 will be held around the country throughout the year.

Malcolm Brown



Award for Community Action man

David Wright, who has just been awarded a 1984 Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship, with Sharon O'Loughlin, a YTS trainee in the GKN computer centre, Bromsgrove. David Wright was seconded to the Special Programmes Unit in 1981 from GKN General Industries division where he was personnel director and chairman of four companies in the division. He is involved in encouraging community action programmes in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Coventry and Lincoln, and the Travelling Fellowship is to visit Philadelphia, well known for its partnership between business and community groups, and three or four other Middle West industrial cities in the United States to look at problems of unemployment.

The debt owed to the Geordie at Vickers

Very significant progress has been reported by the major companies acting as management agencies in the Manpower Services Commission's Youth Training Scheme. Ironically, the success has come as no small surprise to those involved.

The progression has been such that of ten major companies contacted in a straw poll, all reported that since last September's intake they are actually having trouble filling the vacancies available and are having to advertise to attract youngsters into the scheme.

It has been two years since the scheme first began and companies like GKN, Vickers and its subsidiary Rolls Royce, Grand Metropolitan, Allied Breweries and Rank Xerox admit to approaching the whole project with some caution.

What has happened to make YTS one of the most enthusiastically supported schemes for youth, endorsed from both the management and the shop floor?

One of the most famous youth trainers in Britain is Les Allen at Vickers. He has been awarded an MBE for his work and is a down-to-earth Geordie to whom many eyebrows had been raised at Vickers when this chief executive, David Plastow, said that Vickers would begin by taking on some 500 youngsters, 250 on engineering courses, another 250 on work experience places and 50 at the Rolls- Royce plant at Crewe.

Mr Allen said: "So far 34 have already been snapped up for permanent jobs – in fact I've just heard that two more have got jobs today – and we're having some minor problems filling the vacancies." Local firms are approaching the management agents with specific job requirements and asking them to recommend youngsters who would be suitable.

While Mr Allen may be coy about Vicker's reputation for turning out high quality candidates the training school is frequently visited by school inspectors and career officers.

The youngsters are treated as adults. They work at a factory within a factory, and that achieves an important objective. They have a chance to experience life as it really is, and so they can determine where they want their careers to go. Once having established some direction to their lives, they are more suitable for commitment to a job. A small firm does not therefore have to go through the time-consuming and costly business of hiring and firing until a suitable trainee fits in.

The scheme provides the flexibility necessary to enable young people to take the time to think about choice before they have to exercise it.

The current econonic environment has done much to change attitudes and many of the high calibre young people going into the scheme finish it with a determination to return to school or to a polytechnic to receive further education. Within the engineering sector, companies were able to report some 15 students known to have gone back to full time education and to have subsequently obtained university places.

"The point is that we are able to gear the training to individual need", Mr Allen said. "Many kids change their minds about where they want to be once they have a real-life experience. And I think that is where we progress to next."

Certainly career officers find the youngsters easier to talk too and more realistic rather than having to deal with many of the childish fantasies still prevailing after finishing school. Ironically, the scheme has also managed to identify many practical skills that youngsters have that were not full recognized within the educational system.

At GKN forgings, Nigel Cook, their YTS manager, reports much the same story as Vickers. They have 160 approved places and last year were able to fill 85. Early leavers brought that number down to 64. Of the early leavers, nine obtained permanent employment with the small firms they were placed with, another five identified other training schemes in areas they decided they wanted to try for a career, and two decided that the skills they wanted could only be obtained *back* at a full-time, further education course. There were only six drop-outs.

Mr Cook, who works in Bromsgrove, has also been able to place people in retailing, clerical, secretarial, engineering and manufacturing companies. The obligation to attend at least 65-days of a further education college does much to change attitudes towards education and the young people respond positively to managing their own bank accounts.

Several important factors emerge: the confidence of local small firms employing youngsters that have been trained or had work experience with a mafor company; the changing attitudes of the young people themselves to a work committment: the flexibility the scheme provides in allowing the space for the young people to develop and make a choice based on experimential knowledge, and the positive benefits to employers of having employees with an ambition to get ahead.

Wayne Lintott

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Assoc Energy 5p Ord (158a)	75
Brunt Inv £1 Ord (a)	151
CML Microsystems (130*a)	205+5
Cable & Wireless 50p Ord (275*) Fully Paid	333−7
Dataserv Inc Com Stk $0.05	76
Gibbs Mew 25p Ord (240a)	190
Grosvenor Squar 10p Ord (91a)	100+2
Henara 10p Ord (95)	95
Kent J. 5p Ord (55a)	42
Moray Firth Maltings 50p Ord (195a)	224
Morgan Communications 5p Ord (60a)	77−2
Radio Clyde 25p Ord NV (60a)	70
Sangers Photographics 10p Ord (23a)	262
Synterials 10p Ord (100a)	84
Tyne Tees 100p "A" NV (135a)	160
Unibond 25p Ord (105a)	109
Valin Pollen Int 5p Ord (110a)	181−7
Welpac 10p Ord (10a)	16½
XYLLYX 10p Ord (50a)	51−2

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. * by tender.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
104¾	101⅛	Exch	14%	1984	101⅞	..	13.853	9.085
98⅝	92⅛	Exch	3%	1984	98⅜	..	3.050	8.434
102¾	100⅛	Treas	12%	1984	101½ ●	..	11.823	9.279
107⅜	104⅝	Treas	15%	1985	105⅛	..	14.277	9.475
107	101	Exch Cv	12%	1985	102½ ●	..	11.707	9.488
94⅞	88⅝	Treas	3%	1985	94⅞	..	3.173	7.715
103⅞	99½	Treas	11½%	1985	103⅛	−⅛	11.386	9.873
102	95½	Treas C	8¾%	1985	99⅝ ●	..	8.782	8.998
103¾	100⅝	Exch	12¼%	1985	103½	−⅛	11.836	9.984
103⅞	99⅛	Exch	11¾%	1986	103	−⅛	11.408	10.039

Acorn plans to sell BBC micro abroad

By Andrew Cornelius

Acorn Computers expects to renew its lucrative contract to market microcomputers using the BBC name, with a new four-year deal to be signed within the next three to four weeks.

Mr Christopher Curry, managing director of Acorn, said yesterday that the new contract would allow Acorn to sell the BBC microcomputer in overseas markets like India and China.

The BBC has earned about £7m from sales of the microcomputers over the past three years and will continue to receive royalty payments on future sales.

The BBC microcomputer accounts for about 80 per cent of Acorn sales, but the percentage wil fall to nearer 50 per cent as sales grow of the new Electron microcomputer.

Production of the Electron will quadrupled from 25,000 a month 100,000 units each month by the end of the year to clear the backlog of more than 200,000 orders from shops for the £199 machine.

Acorn will continue to manufacture about 20,000 of the Microcomputers, which cost £399 each, while a new business computer costing £1,000 will be launched this year.

Pretax profits in the six months to January 1 this year more than doubled to £5.21m from £2.04m the previous year. Turnover jumped from £14.39m to £40.4m.

The board has promised to pay a nominal final dividend, but no interim dividend will be paid.

The interim results include the £25,000 extraordinary cost of the company's launch on the Unlisted Securities Market last autumn. Mr Curry said that Acorn still intended to seek a full listing.

Pioneer rig designer in new group

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Crest, the company which designed the first North Sea oil rigs and at one time employed 350 skilled engineers in Britain, is a partner in a new company capable of designing, building and operating offshore oil production facilities. Lummus Crest, the new company, combines two previous companies operated by Combustion Engineering of the United States.

Lummus, the Nottingham company, is a leading contractor in the oil and gas production and refining industry while Crest is concerned with design engineering.

The president and chief executive of the new company, Mr Sven A. Kreipke, said yesterday: "This combination is responsive to the changing pattern of the international marketplace in oil and gas production."

Atlantic leasing spreads to health

By Our City Staff

Atlantic computers, the computer systems leasing group launched on the stock market last October, has announced a deal which will take the company into the largely untapped medical equipment leasing market.

The acqusition of the managements skills and goodwill of the leasing subsidiary of Tullett and Tokyo Forex International, the banking and money broking group, for £25,000 will form the core of Atlantic's newly-formed medical equipment company, Atlantic Medical.

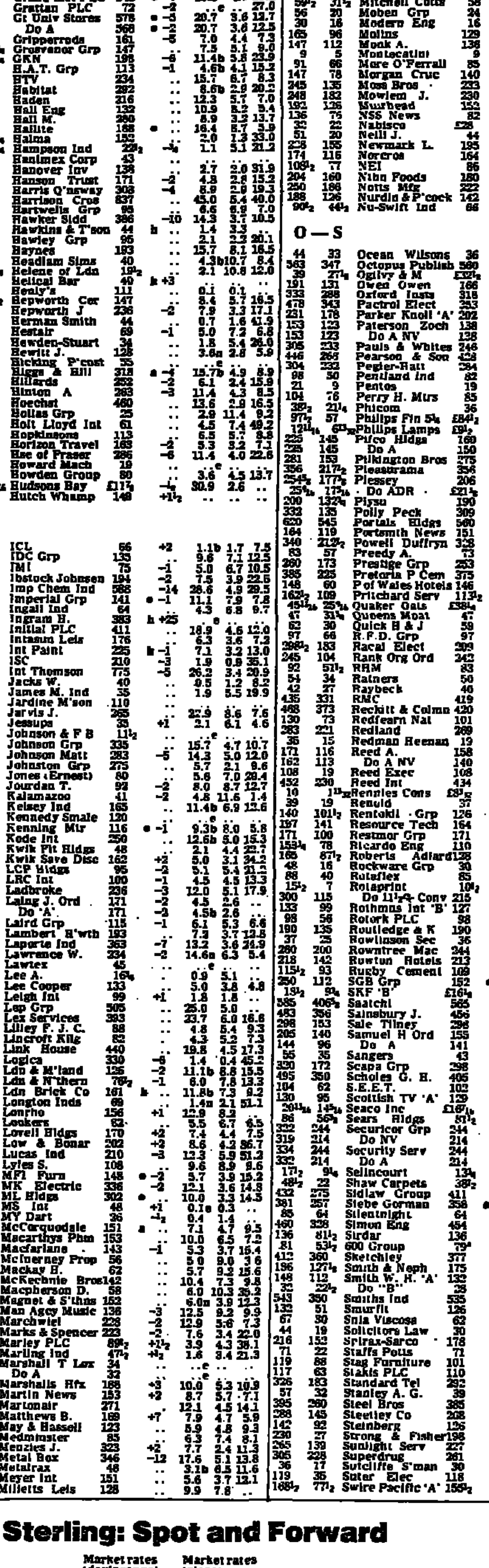
Atlantic's chairman Mr John Foulson, said that £500,000 will be invested in the new operation in the first year. Tullett has made pretax profits from the business of about £100,000 on a turnover of £16 million, over the past two years.

The medical equipment market is at the same stage as the computer business ten years ago, said Mr Foulston.

The target will be to procure and arrange finance and provide technical and maintenance back-up for a wide range of equipment used in hospitals, dental practices, health centres and nursing homes. The equipment ranges from dentists; drills to X-ray scanning systems.

Atlantic will develop Tullett's existing contacts with manufacturers to build up the existing private practice market, and also to break into the public sector through the Department of Health and Social Security. A change of attitude in the public sector had opened the way for leasing deals, said Mr Foulston.

The takeover of the Tullett business is Atlantic's second acquisition since the company gained its stock-market listing. Last November Atlantic bought Lion Systems Developments, a privately-owned communications company, for £14.



COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
165	111	Argyll Grp	165	+1	6.4	3.9	18.5
495	382	Ash & Lacy	487	..	25.7	5.3	9.3
293	171	Ass Book	288	..	10.4	3.6	12.0
170	129½	Ass Brit Food	160	..	6.9	4.3	7.1
162	102	Ass Dairies	146	..	3.7	2.5	21.1
99	59	Ass Fisheries	99	..	3.6	3.6	9.3
155	86	Ass Leisure	150	h ..	5.9n	3.9	13.1
483	198	Ass News	478	−5	14.9	3.1	22.5
123	63	Ass Paper	123	..	6.0b	4.9	10.1
460	235	Atlantic Comp	460	+5	1.4	0.3	23.7
110	78½	Attwoods PLC	110	+1	3.3	3.0	22.5
57	25	Ault & Wiborg	47	h +8	1.2	2.5	15.7

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
368	301	Grand Met PLC	348	● −7	13.8	4.0	13.1
86	32	Grattan PLC	72	−2	..e	..	27.0
636	503	Gt Univ Stores	578	● −3	20.7	3.6	12.7
631	498	Do A	568	● −2	20.7	3.6	12.5
168	113	Gripperrods	161	−5	7.0	4.4	7.3
173	104½	Grosvenor Grp	147	..	7.5	5.1	9.0
211	120½	GKN	198	−6	11.4b	5.8	23.9
138	105	H.A.T. Grp	113	−1	4.6b	4.1	15.2
257	136	HTV	234	..	15.7	6.7	8.3
302	196	Habitat	292	..	8.6b	2.9	20.2
293	188	Haden	216	..	12.3	5.7	7.0
164	116	Hall Eng	132	..	10.9	8.2	5.4

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
59½	31½	Mitchell Cotts	58	..	5.2	8.9	12.9
56	20	Moben Grp	24	+1	0.4	1.5	6.9
30	16	Modern Eng	16	..	..e	..	..
165	96	Molins	129	−3	11.3	8.8	5.5
147	112	Monk A.	136	..	8.6b	6.3	5.7
9	5	Montecatini	9	..	..	..	..
91	66	More O'Ferrall	85	..	4.3	5.0	13.7
147	78	Morgan Cruc	140	+1	10.2	7.3	29.0
245	135	Moss Bros	233	−2	5.9	2.5	21.8
248	182	Mowlem J.	230	..	15.1	6.6	9.7
192	126	Muirhead	152	..	7.1	4.7	11.2
136	76	NSS News	82	−4	4.3	5.2	7.5

T—Z

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
21½	13¾	TDK	19⅞	..	12.4	0.6	27.2
250	152	TI Group	246	..	10.7	4.4	..
203	21	TACE	187	−1	4.3	2.3	13.0
90	34	TSL Therm Synd	55	..	..	..	10.1
28½	14½	TSW	28½	..	1.7	6.0	11.4
25⅞	20⅝	Takeda BDR	£20½	−⅛	..	..	22.4
7⅛	4	Talbex Grp	5⅛	..	..	..	..
464	390	Tarmac PLC	462	+2	16.3	3.5	16.2
435	298½	Tate & Lyle	380	● −3	22.9	6.0	8.2

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
	23	Do A	32	..	..e	..	..
	130	Marshalls Hfx	188	+3	10.0	5.3	10.9
	133	Martin News	153	+2	8.7	5.7	7.1
	228	Martonair	271	..	12.1	4.5	14.1
	118	Matthews B.	169	+7	7.9	4.7	5.9
	69	May & Hassell	123	..	5.9	4.8	9.3
	53	Medminster	85	..	6.3	7.4	8.1
	278	Menzies J.	323	+2	7.7	2.4	11.3
	154	Metal Box	346	−12	17.6	5.1	13.8
	37½	Metalrax	48	..	3.1b	6.5	11.6
	103	Meyer Int	151	..	5.6	3.7	12.1
	120	Milletts Leis	128	..	9.9	7.8	..

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
117	63	Stakis PLC	110	−2	2.9	2.6	
326	183	Standard Tel	292	−6	10.7	3.7	
57	32	Stanley A. G.	39	−1	1.4	3.7	
395	280	Steel Bros	385	..	17.1	4.5	
288	145	Steetley Co	208	+4	10.0b	3.7	
142	92	Steinberg	126	..	2.9b	2.3	
230	27	Strong & Fisher	198	−8	..	..	
265	139	Sunlight Serv	227	+2	10.0	4.4	
305	228	Superdrug	261	+1	5.0b	1.9	
36	17	Sutcliffe S'man	30	..	..e	..	
119	35	Suter Elec	118	+2	2.9b	2.4	
168½	77½	Swire Pacific 'A'	155½	−½	..		



Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 23	Market rates (close) February 23	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4525-1.4680	$1.4620-1.4630	0.07-0.12c disc	0.30-0.35c disc
Montreal	$1.8120-1.8280	$1.8260-1.8270	0.05-0.15c disc	0.28-0.33c disc
Amsterdam	4.34¾-4.40¾fl	4.37¾-4.38¾fl	1⅛-⅞c prem	3¾-3¼c prem
Brussels	78.90-79.75f	79.45-79.55f	25-35c disc	73-83c disc
Copenhagen	14.10-14.27¾k	14.21¼-14.22¾k	40-145ore disc	275-380ore disc
Dublin	1.2580-1.2650p	1.2615-1.2625p	27-35p disc	57-67p disc
Frankfurt	3.85¾-3.90m	3.87¾-3.88¾m	1⅛-⅞pf prem	3½-3pf prem
Lisbon	191.85-195.00e	193.50-194.00e	260-525c disc	695-1285c disc
Madrid	221.00-223.20p	222.65-222.85p	180-300c disc	525-580c disc
Milan	2390-2414¾lr	2400½-2402½lr	15-17lr disc	50-52lr disc
Oslo	11.05¾-11.14¾k	11.10-11.11k	315-385ore disc	1020-1090ore disc
Paris	11.88¾-12.01¼f	11.94¾-11.95¾f	7½-8½c disc	29-30c disc
Stockholm	11.49¾-11.60½k	11.53½-11.54½k	170-225ore disc	440-495ore disc
Tokyo	338¾-342½y	341-342y	0.73-0.60y prem	2.35-2.20y prem
Vienna	27.20-27.48sch	27.35-27.40sch	8-6gro prem	22-18gro prem
Zurich	3.17½-3.21½f	3.19½-3.20½f	1¼-1⅛c prem	4½-4⅛c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.3 at 82.7.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 9½ Low 5

Week Fixed: 9¼-9

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8$\frac{15}{16}$	2 months	8$\frac{29}{32}$
3 months	8⅞	3 months	8$\frac{27}{32}$

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	9-8$\frac{31}{32}$	1 month	9⅝
2 months	8$\frac{15}{16}$-8$\frac{29}{32}$	2 months	9$\frac{9}{16}$
3 months	8⅞-8$\frac{27}{32}$	3 months	9½
6 months	8$\frac{13}{16}$-8$\frac{25}{32}$	6 months	9$\frac{7}{16}$

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9⅝-9½	7 months	9½-9¼
2 months	9⅝-9½	8 months	9½-9¼
3 months	9⅝-9½	9 months	9¾-9½
4 months	9⅝-9½	10 months	9¾-9½
5 months	9½-9¼	11 months	9¾-9½
6 months	9½-9¼	12 months	9¾-9½

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9$\frac{1}{32}$-8$\frac{7}{32}$	6 months	8⅞-8$\frac{11}{32}$
3 months	8$\frac{11}{32}$-8$\frac{9}{32}$	12 months	8⅞-8$\frac{9}{16}$

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	9⅛	3 months	9⅛
7 days	9⅛	6 months	9⅝
1 month	9¼	1 year	9⅞

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 9¼ Close 9½

1 week	9¼-9⅛	6 months	9$\frac{9}{16}$-9$\frac{7}{16}$
1 month	9$\frac{5}{16}$-9¼	9 months	9$\frac{11}{16}$-9$\frac{9}{16}$
3 months	9$\frac{13}{16}$-9$\frac{11}{32}$	12 months	9¾-9$\frac{11}{16}$

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 9$\frac{13}{32}$ 6 months 9$\frac{9}{16}$

Finance House Base Rate 9½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.5390-1.5440
Bahrein	0.5495-0.5525
Finland	8.35-8.39
Greece	146.50-148.50
Hongkong	11.3510-11.3910
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4280-0.4290
Malaysia	3.3975-3.4375
Mexico	235-260
New Zealand	2.1960-2.2160
Saudi Arabia	5.11-5.14
Singpore	3.0920-3.1220
South Africa	1.7530-1.7680

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.1577-1.1584
† Canada	1.2490-1.2493
Netherlands	2.9956-2.9970
Belgium	54.35-54.40
Denmark	9.7220-9.7320
West Germany	2.6533-2.6543
Portugal	132-133
Spain	152.30-152.40
Italy	1644-1646
Norway	7.5920-7.5970
France	8.1650-8.1750
Sweden	7.8830-7.8880
Japan	233.37-233.47
Austria	18.71-18.72
Switzerland	2.1860-2.1875

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8008-0.8011

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 8⅞-9⅛; seven days, 9$\frac{5}{16}$-9$\frac{3}{16}$; one month, 9$\frac{13}{16}$-9$\frac{11}{16}$; three months, 10$\frac{1}{16}$-10$\frac{5}{16}$; six months, 10⅝-10½.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $390.75 (an ounce); pm, $396.25 close, $397.75-398.50 (£272-272.75).

Krugerrand* (per coin): $410-411.50 (£280.50-281.50).

Sovereigns* (new): $93-94 (£63.50-64.25).

* Excludes VAT

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Revenue savages gilt-edged market

The Treasury and the Inland Revenue have combined to strike a sickening blow at the revenues of building societies. It will make the gilt-edged market throw up this morning and turn banks and other financial institutions pale with apprehention as they contemplate the Budget on March 13.

Without waiting for Budget ritual, the Revenue has blandly and out of the blue, informed building societies that with immediate effect they will be taxed at their special rate of 40 per cent on gains made in dealing in government and similar securities.

Building societies hold perhaps as much as a quarter of all short-dated gilt-edged stocks and significant amounts of later maturities. They have been a sturdy pillar supporting the market in government debt, to a role they have been encouraged to play not lest by the official tailoring of issues to suit their particular requirements. For their part building societies have enjoyed the role. Though their capital gains are liable to normal capital gains tax, the maxinum rate is 30 per cent, they have generally avoided paying any such tax by holding stock for more than a year when they automatically become exempt from CGT. Gains from gilts have been a splendid source of income expanding the funds for mortgage lending in secure and generally trouble free ways.

Building societies paid £117m in tax in the last year for which figures are available (1981-82). If the 40 per cent charge had been in force they would have paid an extra £120m.

The Revenue's decision, which is based on "legal advice" that gilt-edged gains are properly part of building societies' trading profits, brings them in line with the way banks are taxed on their gilts profits. The Revenue claims that its action has no implications for other institutions operating in the gilt-edged market. But it will have wide-ranging implications for both building societies and for the market in govenment stocks.

At the Abbey National, Britain's second biggest society, Mr James Tyrrell, general manager finance, said he had read the announcement with "total incredulity." From tomorrow morning we are going to talking about a totally different strategy in the gilts market. We are not taking this lying down."

Abbey National made gains of £12m in 1982 and considerably more in 1983, while Nationwide made investment profits of £46.5m last year, largely free of tax. Halifax, the biggest building society, also announced recently that a large part of its surplus in the year to January 30 came from gilt-edged profits.



Petherbridge: key role in Bank liason

Stepping down

Mr Richard Petherbridge retires today after a remarkable 40 years with Union Discount. He rose to the position of senior managing director with Union, and was chairman of the London Discount Market Association during some of the most turbulent spells the money market has ever experienced. As such, he played a key role in liaising with the Bank of England.

In his more reflective moods, the gentle and genial Mr Petherbridge has been heard to compare managing the daily ups and downs of the discount market with driving an experess train: just as well, then, that in his retirement he can indulge his weakness for steam engines.

Bank has lessons for industry

Two blasts from the Bank of England on successive days are, to put it mildly, unusual. But there is a logical progression from the remarks made by the deputy governor on Wednesday to the governor's speech yesterday. Mr Christopher McMahon was urging British companies to use their rebuilt profits wisely, by which he meant for productive investment rather than allowing costs to rise. Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, speaking to the National Association of Pension Funds, was urging institutional investors to use their influence on companies to ensure the same result.

Although yesterday's new figures for capital spending show a marked improvement towards the end of last year, in manufacturing they are still historically low. To some extent this reflects the shift from manufacturing to services in the economy as a whole.

The governor's arguments yesterday concerned the role of shareholders in promoting industrial health. Through their influence on the membership of company boards, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said, with a side-swipe at EEC draft directives on the composition of company boards, the institutional investors can and should take some responsibility for industrial performance.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton, like Mr McMahon, was concerned that in existing companies, "the hard-won gains of the last few years are not frittered away."

The governor's conclusion is that institutional investors should be ready to "hypothecate" part of their budgets for high technology investment. He was careful to make it plain that he was not suggesting any fixed proportion; even so, is there any point in such exhortations? The Bank can hint the banking system in preferred directions, away from excessive mortgage lending, for example, because of the ustated powers it possesses to make life uncomfortable for the wayward.

Industrial companies, even pension funds, are outside the Bank's traditional grip. Yet its reach has been extended during the past recession, when it orchestrated many a bank rescue of ailing companies – in effect, running the Government's industrial policy on the quiet. Perhaps this has given the Bank new authority to make powerful suggestions to industry – suggestions to which industry may feel obliged to listen.

ICI profits surge by £360m, but shares marked lower

By William Kay, City Editor

Imperial Chemical Industries sent the London stock market tumbling yesterday when it announced annual profit figures below analysts' best expectations. At one stage the *Financial Times* 30-share index was down 10.3 at 806.1, although it later recovered to 806.9.

However, to all but the most demanding the ICI results were excellent. Pretax profits rose from £259m to £619m on sales £898m higher at £8,256m. The final dividend is 14p, making a total up from 19p to 24p.

Nevertheless the ICI share price was cut from 602p to 576p by mid-afternoon. The shares later recovered to 586p.

An angry Mr John Harvey-Jones, ICI's chairman, told *The Times:* "I think the market had gone off its rocker with forecasts of up to £700m. There was no way we could have made that, or anything like it. I am sorry if I have disappointed some of the starry-eyed optimists, but last year's result was a tremendous improvement and I am confident that we shall do well again this year."

The best contributor to the improvement was the petrochemicals plastics division, which cut its trading loss from £139m to £7m. Pharmaceutical profits rose by £61m to £199m, general chemicals by £47m to £107m and agriculture by £16m to £174m.

In an interview after yesterday's board meeting, Mr Harvey-Jones said that about half the improvement had come from the company's own efforts, a quarter from increased world demand and a quarter from the lower exchange rate's windfall effect on profit margins. The group generated £500m of cash, which was used to reduce gearing.

He added that there was still plenty to be squeezed out of improved efficiency. "We are working at only 80 per cent of capacity," he said, "so we could increase output considerably with the same workforce."

He does in fact look forward to another two years of strong growth in the company. "We have been looking at 1985 and 1986 as the years of the world economic downturn," he said. "In that context, I am pretty sure we can grow in 1984 and 1985, and some parts of the business will continue to grow after that, but the downturn will begin to take hold."

ICI still harbours ambitions to expand in the US, but the chairman's view is that it would be best to wait until the bottom of the next trough.

Analysts were last night sticking to their 1984 predictions for the group – profits of between £800m and £860m. This would put the shares on a price/earnings ratio of 7.

● **NCR Ltd:** Year to Nov. 30, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 125,090 (116,748). Pretax profit 26,418 (23,735). The cmpany enters 1984 with a substantial order book and this, together with other factors promises significant growth for 1984. Company is a fully-owned offshoot of NCR Corp.

Wall Street drifts down

Stocks drifted lower on moderate volume, on Wall Street yesterday when the Dow Jones industrial average was down about 4 points.

Volume was about 41 million shares. Declines were about 8-to-5 ahead of advances.

The US Commerce Department said new factory orders for durable goods rose an adjusted 1.1 per cent last month from the preceding month. The news, however, had little effect on the lack lustre market.

Technology stocks, which had a rally on Wednesday, lost most of their gains. IBM was down 7/8 at 108 1/4. Teledyne was off 1 1/2 at 157 7/8 and NCR Corp. was off 1 to 110 1/8.

Tymshare was up 1 3/8 to 15 1/8. Pepsico, which is considering withdrawing from the transportation business, was up 5/8 to 36 1/8. General Instrument which renegotiated its takeover of Tocom, was down 1 1/8 to 25 1/8. Tocom was down 5/16 at 2 1/8.

STOCK EXCHANGES

SE 100 Index: 1043 down 1.4 (day's high: 1042.1; low 1031.7)
FT Index: 806.9 down 9.5
FT Gilts: 82.96
FT All Share: 489.89 down 4.13
Bargains: 22,660
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1129.71 down 4.50
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9939.56 down 8.15
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1067.29 up 20.07
Amsterdam: 163.9 down 2.2
Sydney: AO Index 745.5 up 1.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4625 up 1.15 cents
Index 82.7 up 0.3
DM 3.8825 up 0.0250
FrF 11.9525 up 0.0375
Yen 341.50 up 3.0
Dollar
Index 128.0 down 0.1
DM 2.6545 down 82pts
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4585
Dollar DM 2.6575
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.577993
SDR £0.725210

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $339.75 pm $398.25
close $397.75-$398.50 (£272-£272.75)
New York (latest): $397.75
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$410-411 (£280.50-£281.50)
Sovereigns* (new):
$93-94 (£63.50-£64.25
*Excludes VAT

Crown Agents' survival ensured

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The future of the Crown Agents was finally settled yesterday after months of uncertainty when the Government announced that it had decided to back the survival plan drawn up by the 151-year-old organization.

This will involve at least 250 redundancies among the 1,200 staff, the sale of its grandiose Georgian headquarters in London and a commitment to investigate ways of achieving the Crown Agents' eventual privatization.

The announcement that the Government has agreed to give the agents a further lease of life was made in the House of Commons yesterday by Mr Timothy Raison, the Minister for Overseas Development. It followed a protracted debate in Whitehall about the best way of treating the Crown Agents after its loss last summer of a lucrative contract to manage the investment funds of the Sultan of Brunei.

Mr Raison said the Government had undertaken a thorough review of the survival plan drawn up by Mr Peter Graham, the Senior Crown Agent and, as a result, expected the agents to be fully profitable again by 1986.

The sale of the head office in Millbank, London, is expected to more than halve the outstanding capital debt owed to the Government from £19m to £9m. In addition, the Government has agreed to waive the interest payment of £1.9m it was due to receive from the agents this financial year on its commencing capital. It may make similar gestures in 1985 and 1986 as well

Mr Graham said last night: "The Crown Agents welcome the Government's decision to allow us to continue the work which we undertake on behalf of 1,200 overseas Government departments, public bodies and international aid agencies".

Although the Foreign Office and the Overseas Development Administration have supported the case for the Agents' survival, the Treasury is believed to have led the campaign within Whitehall arguing that it should either be abolished or privatized.

Earnings at Plessey up 25%

By Jeremy Warner

Plessey, the telecommunications and electronic group, helped to unsettle the stock market yesterday by announcing third quarter figures which were lower than expected.

Pretax profits were 25 per cent higher at £43.7m, lifting the nine-month total from £102m to £124.6m. The company's share price fell 14p to 206p.

Mr Peter Marshall, the group's finance director, said he was perplexed at the market's reaction. "I do not know what you have to do to please them. Maybe they have not noticed that the interim dividend is up 15 per cent, and that we have brought its payment date forward by two months," he said.

The main boost to results again came from defence electronis, where profits leapt 69 per cent, helped by export-led sales growth in military communications and radar.

In telecommunications, the largest of the group's business activities, only edged ahead to £52.3m, held back by continued losses at Stromberg-Carlson, the main exchange company in the US, which was acquired in October, 1982.

Mr Marshall said that Plessey had budgeted for two years of losses when it bought Stromberg, and that the company had consistently performed better than expected.

Plan for US trustee at Reuters

By Our City Staff

Reuters Trustees are to appoint a prominent member of American public life to their ranks once the news agency and business information group is floated in May. It will be the first US involvement in Reuters.

The number of Trustees will be raised by four to 14 – but not all the extra places will be taken at once. Three will definitely be filled – one by an American and the other two by British public figures.

The American appointment will reflect the number of US investors who are expected to buy Reuters shares. Of the additional British Trustees, one has already agreed to stand.

Lord Hartwell, who leads the Daily Telegraph Ltd, is chairman of a sub-committee of Trustees recommending appointments.

He said: "We can't give any names yet because they have not formally been agreed. I expect they will be in the prospectus. We are looking for people who know something about agencies and the media, but who have a reputation for achievement in other fields."

Two other new names will take their places after the end of next month, they will be replacing Mr Angus McLachlan, the Trustee chairman, who represents the Australian Press, but has suffered ill-health recently and Mr Geoffrey Upton of New Zealand News Ltd. He acted as chairman at Tuesday's Trustees' meeting which agreed fresh proposals to keep Reuters independent.

There is still no progress from the entrenched positions taken by the Reuter's Board and the big pension funds and insurance companies. The financial institutions are objecting to the issue of one class of share, carrying a majority of the total votes held by the newspaper owners of Reuters and not traded. The shares being sold to the public have only one vote each.

As a result, the share issue may have to be underwritten in America where Reuters also intends to obtain a listing.

The EEC's Fifth Directive: currently working its way through the British system, effectively outlaws non-voting shares unless member-countries state otherwise.

Burmah strikes oil in North Sea's deepest well

By Philip Robinson

Burmah Oil Exploration, the operator and significant stake holder in North Sea block 22/2, has struck oil drilling the deepest well yet on the British Continental Shelf.

Tests have indicated a total fluid rate of 4,500 barrels-a-day and an oil flow rate of 2,500 barrels a day.

The well was started last June after Burmah, Charterhouse Oil and Gas, Charterhouse Petroleum, Svenska Petroleum Exploration and Norsk Hydro Petroleum, acting as a consortium, were awarded rights to the block for £5m in the seventh round of North Sea licenses.

Burmah's claim that the 18,030 feet drilling below the Kelly Bushing – the starting point for deep sea measurements – was the deepest, was confirmed by the Department of Energy. However, the department could not say by how much the depth was increased on the previous record.

Burmah is evaluating the results of drilling in the block which is 150 miles north east of Aberdeen and 19 miles north east of the Fortes Field.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ladbroke lifts bid

Ladbroke Group has increased its offer for Turf Paradise in the US from $7 to $8.75 per share in return for a board recommendation. Shareholders in Turf Paradise, who own 32 per cent of the shares, have agreed to tender their shares.

● The Asian Development Bank's issues of £100m 10¼ per cent loan stock 2009 has been oversubscribed. Applications will be scaled down. Amounts for £10,000 will be alloted in full. Applicants for between £20,000 and £40,000 will get £10,000; from £50,000 to £100,000 will get £12,500 and from £200,000 to £300,000 will receive £25,000.

● New orders received by US manufacturers for durable goods rose $1.06 billion (£746m) or 1.1 per cent. in January to a seasonally adjusted $99.22 billion.

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9⅛ - 9
3 month interbank 9 13/32 - 9 11/32
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 11/16 - 10 9/16
3 month DM 5 15/16 – 5 13/16
3 month Fr F19½ – 18½
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 11/16
Treasury long bond 98 27/32 - 98 31/32
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 4, 1984 to February 7, 1984 inclusive: 9.493 per cent.

Beecham buys 'entry' to Italy for £42.3m

By Our City Staff

Beecham has plugged the only gap in its worldwide pharmaceutical marketing network by buying a big Italian drugs company, the 120-year-old Dr L Zambeletti, for £42.3m cash.

Italy is the fifth biggest pharmaceutical market in the world but Beechams has not sold its drugs there except through licensing arrangements. Under Italian law pharmaceutical companies must have a local manufacturing base before selling their product.

Sir Graham Wilkins, Beecham's chairman, said yesterday that the acquisition was mainly for the opportunity it gave Beecham to enter the Italian market rather than for Zambeletti's manufacturing business.

Zambeletti is publicly quoted in Italy but Beecham has acquired the 83.8 per cent of the shares which were in the hands of the Zambeletti family.

Beecham has previously suffered in Italy from the lack of patent protection which allowed local manufacturers to copy its products.

Institute fears recovery may fade next year

Call for expansionary Budget

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A plea for a "moderately expansionary" Budget directed at measures to boost investment in manufactuing industry and the public sector has come from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, the independent forecasting group.

In its February *Economic Review* published yesterday, the institue pays that low investment is not only holding back the recovery, but also threatens to impair longer term groth

The institute expects growth of 2.2 per cent this year, the same as last year and slight improvement on its forecast of three months ago, mainly because it is more optimistic about consumer spending. The discrepancy between this and the Treasury's 3 per cent growth forecast is less than it seems because they are using different measures of gross domestic product.

● But the institute foresees the recovery fading next year, with growth of only 1.5 per cent, unemployment rising to 3.2 million by Christmas 1985 after sticking at 3.0 million this year and inflation accelerating to 6.8 per cent by the end of 1983 and to 7.8 per cent a year later from about 5 per cent today.

The review says that the lacklustre recovery so has mainly reflected inadequate investment. The other components of demand in the economy – consumer spending, government consumption and exports – are all higher than they were before the recession, but investment is still much lower, it says.

Echoing the remarks on Wednesday by Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, the review goes on: "In the longer term, lack of new capacity may make it impossible to retain a high level of employment or climb back on to the previous trend of growth."

The institute, lining up behind the industry, urges the Chancellor to reduce, or abolish, the National Insurance Surcharge which it says would stimulate investment and stock building, reduce inflation and help jobs by lowering labour costs.

● Manufacturing investment picked up smartly in the final quarter of last year, the first significant increase since the recession began. From, the third to fourth quarters, investment rose by 4.2 per cent, though in 1983 as a whole it was 6.8 per cent lower than the previous year. By contrast, investment in construction, distribution and financial services surged to record levels last year, up 8.4 per cent from 1982.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling closed above 1.46 dollars for the first time since November 30, 1.15 cents better than overnight at 1.4625, with increased Middle East hostilities again raising fears about oil supplies.

The pound's trade-weighted index closed at 82.7. Dealers said trade was hectic as speculators began to see attractions in sterling's petro-currency status, and joined corporate and commercial buyers covering short positions.

The dollar continued to slide despite the revision of the December US durable goods figures by 1.5 per cent, in addition to the expected January increase.

At one point the dollar dipped to 2.6430 marks before recovering to 2.6545, down 80 points on the day and 4½ centimes down against French francs at 8.17.

Closing below 3 guilders for the first time in many months at 2.9960, the US unit also slipped 35 points on Swiss francs at 2.1865.

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank of England relieved a £400m shortage yesterday, although the market again struggled to find saleable paper.

The authorities provided £443m of assistance, with purchases of £162m of bank bills across the four bands, sale and repurchase arrangements, involving £251m of bills to next Monday, at rates of interest of 9⁵⁄₁₆ per cent, and £30m of late lending to the market.

Secured rates had stayed firm at 9 to 9⅛ per cent, until completion of the bank's programme of aid when houses were able to pick up funds as low as 5 per cent. Closing balances were mostly taken in a range of 5 to 7 per cent.

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Taubman stays silent on Fraser bid

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 13. Dealings end today. Contango Day, Feb 27. Settlement Day, March 5.

Mr Alfred Taubman, the international art dealer and owner of **Sotheby's** auction house, refused to confirm or deny yesterday that he is the American investor preparing to make a takeover bid for the **House of Fraser** stores group.

From New York, Mr Bernard Winograd, the man close to Mr Taubman during the Sotheby bid, said: "There have been a number of stories and this has become the most prominent. We can neither confirm nor deny these suggestions".

House of Fraser shares dropped 6p to 286p yesterday on fears that 500,000 shares were overhanging the market. Fraser's price had been breaking new records earlier this week.

Mr Philip Hawley, of the retailing group **Carter Hawley Hale** has already denied his company might be interested in bidding. Mr Hawley is a former director of House of Fraser, but resigned in 1982.

Meanwhile, Mr Paul Spicer, a director of **Lonhro**, which owns just under a third of Fraser shares, said: "All we are saying is that we have had a number of people interested in our stake".

Favourite rumour in the market is that Lonhro will sell its Fraser stake to a potential Fraser predator in return for buying back the Harrods flagship store later on. Lonhro's price closed off the day's best but up 1p at 156p.

Elsewhere, the long shadow of ICI dominated share prices. The final pretax profits figure of £619m fell short of many optimistic predictions of up to £660m and the market reacted accordingly, wiping 26p off the shares at one stage, before they rallied on cheap buying to close a net 16p down on the day at 586p. Dealers reported only light selling from New York.

A rise of £22.6m to £124.6m in half-year profits from **Plessey** did little to help sentiment. Shares of Plessey ended the day 14p lower at 206p as one nervous seller unloaded two million shares.

In the event, most leading industrials were marked lower, although selling pressure was described as light with institutional investors still making up their minds as to the market's next move. The *FT* Index closed above its worst level of the day 9.5 down at 806.9, while the Stock Exchange Index of 100 leading companies lost 11.3 to 1031.7

It has been a good account for shares of Redfearn National Glass, the glass and plastic container maker, which rose another 3p to 101p yesterday – for a rise on the account of 14p. Apparently two investors have bought stakes of just under 5 per cent each. Mr John Pratt, chairman and managing director, says he will continue to keep a close eye on the share register.

Government securities spent another quiet day still worried by uncertainty over US interest rates and the American economy. Prices barely stirred from overnight levels with the *FT* Government Securities Index closing unchanged at 82.96. However, the weaker dollar prompted further demand for gold with the bullion price increasing Wednesday's gains to break through the $400 level at one stage. Its high for the day was $402.50, but it ended only $3.25 up at $398 an ounce.

Gold producers continued to make the most out of the metal's return to popularity, gaining up to $4 among the heavyweights before profit taking left prices below their best. **Am Gold** rose $2.5 to $124.25, **Buffelsfontein** $1 to $65.25, **Doornfontein** $1 to $25.12, **Driefontein** $1.5 to $38.5, **Kloof** $12.25 to $53.25, **Randfontein** $2 to $162.5 and **Southvaal** $1 to $66.25. Among the cheaper-priced stocks **East Daggafontein** rose 15 cents to 565 cents and **Loraine** 15 cents to 628 cents.

The market's easier trend promted nervous selling among leading equitites with several large lines of stock on offer after hours. **Barratt Developments** tumbled 8p to 170p as at least on million shares came on offer and **Amrks and Spencer** lost 2p to 223p as around 500,000 shares came on offer.

Falls were also seen in **BICC**, 7p to 251p, **BTR** 6p to 420p, **Blue Circle** 3p to 415p, **Boots** 3p to 172p, **Bowater** 3p to 258p, **Courtaulds** 2p to 138p, **GKN** 6p to 198p **Glaxo** 12p to 740p, **Grand Metropolitan** 9p t 346p, **Imperial Group** 2p to 141p, **Lucas Industries** 3p to 210p, **Thorn EMI** 7p to 617p, **Trusthouse Forte** 3p to 211p and **Vickers** 1p to 143p.

Distillers slipped 1p to 256p following a gloomy picture of prospects painted by broker de Zoete & Bevan. Demand in both the US and Japan has improved, but could not be described as a resumption of growth and both markets are likely to remain dull in 1984. Investors should be cautious of increased exposure to the fragile US market which the acquisition of **Somerset** would bring, especially if the US economy takes a step backwards in 1985, de Zoete adds. Distiller shares look fairly valued at current levels with the prospective yiels of 7.2 per cent limiting risk, but renewed weakness in the dollar could be bad news.

Shares of **Norfolk Capital Group**, the hotel chain run by Sir Maxwell Joseph's widow, retreated another 3p to 71p following denials from Mr John Loughray, managing director of **Stakis**, that the group was increasing its stake. Mr Loughray told shareholders at the Stakis annual meeting in Glasgow: "There is very little to say. The rumours are just not true".

Anglo United, the Toronto open cast coalminer, continues to lay the foundations for its London listing now expected in June. Today Mr David McErlain, president and chief executive, is meeting a handful of institutions at the offices of the stockbroker Williams de Broe. The shares unchanged at 52p, against a high of 90p, are capable of touching 70p before the listing, dealers say

Stakis is known to be keen to expand its interests in London and the south-east and already wons a 6.65 per cent stake in Norfolk, but says it is not the buyers of **Kennedy Brookes'** 7.3 per cent sold earlier this week. Stakis announced this week that it had bought the three-star Grosevnor Hotel in Edinburgh for an undisclosed sum.

The increased fighting between Iran and Iraq enabled oil shares to rally from a weak start, but prices never recovered their overnight levels. **BP** closed 2p lower at 428p, after 426p, **Shell** 2p to 631p, **Ultramar** 2p to 672p, **Lasmo** 3p to 315p, **Premier Consolidated** 1½p to 57p, **Tricentrol** 5p to 198p, **Clyde Petroleum** 2p to 126p and **Imperial Continental Gas** 3p to 278p. Even **Burmah** lost 1p at 182p and **Charterhouse Petroleum** 4p at 139p, despite news of a joint oil find in Block 22/2 in the North Sea.

Commercial Union tried to rally after Wednesday's dismal figures, but after hitting 175p lost ground to end 1p lower on the day at 172p. Nervous selling also hit the rest of the sector with **General Accident** down 3p at 443p, **Guardian Royal** 3p at 513p, **Phoenix Assurance** 5p at 463p, and **Royal Insurance** 5p at 508p.

Mr Mark Watson-Mitchell, the tipster and publisher, has increased his holding in **Reliant**, the three-wheel car manufacturer, with an extra 25,000 shares through his private company **Mintinix**. He now owns a total of 575,000 shares (6.96 per cent) of Reliant, unchanged at 37p. Mr Watson-Mitchell also has sizable stakes in three other publicly-quoted companies including **VW Thermax**, **Highgate & Job** and **Harvey & Thompson**.

A private company, **Hereward Securities**, has been buying more shares in **Smith Whitworth** and now speaks for a total of 862,000 shares.

Mr David Alliance's **Vantona Viyella** yesterday made its expected offer for **F Miller (Textiles)** in the wake of the failure of the bid from **Nottingham Manufacturing**. The bid values the Scottish Marks & Spencer supplier at £14.6m against Nottingham's offer of £11m. Vantona's shares were 216p yesterday, down 5p.

Hestair takes over two job agencies

Hestair, the industrial holding group, has expanded its employment bureau operations with the purchase of 60 per cent of Rand Services (Holdings) for £600,000 in cash and shares. Hestair has also bought Atlas Employment Agency and Atlas Employment Agency (Blackfriars) for £845,000 cash.

Rand runs agencies from 24 branches, mainly in London and Scotland, and has a £5.3m turnover. Atlas has 14 branches in London and a £2.7m turnover. The takeover will strengthen operations by Hestair's offshoot, S O S Bureau, and give Hestair one of the largest employment agency operations in Britain.

Hestair is also involved in vehicles, consumer products, office and industrial services and farm equipment.

In brief

● **Tarmac takeovers:** Four acquisitions, together worth about £1.6m have been made by Tarmac Roadstone Holdings – the holding company of the Tarmac Group's quarry products division.

This brings to about £40m the total spent on acquisitions for the division in the last six months. The four are:

South Wales Sand and Gravel, a marine aggregates dredging business in the Bristol Channel.

Joseph Adshead and Son, which operates a sand pit at Chelford, Cheshire.

H. & M. Concrete, which operates a small concrete blockmaking business at Cheadle, North Staffordshire, adjacent to Croxden Quarry acquired by Tarmac last year.

A limestone deposit at Creigiau Quarry, near Cardiff, acquired from British Steel.

● **Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust** Britain's oldest investment trust and, with total net assets of £463m, the largest company within the Foreign and Colonial Management Group, achieved a 34 per cent increase in net asset value per share, to 142.3p over the 12 months ended December 31 1983. Total revenue last year rose from £14.48m to £18.51m.

The directors are recommending a final dividend of 1.625p per share which, together with the interim dividend, makes a total for 1983 of 2.375p per share – a 6 per cent increase over 1982 and the thirteenth consecutive annual increase.

● **Guildhall Property:** Half year to Dec 31, 1983. Figures in £000. Pretax profit on ordinary activities 621 (555). Guildhall is now a subsidiary of Slough Estates.

● **Jebsens Drilling:** Results for 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 57,427 (59,424). Pretax profit 14,199 (19,428). No final dividend is being paid, so cutting the year's total from 17.5p to 3.5p a share.

● **Ward Holdings:** Year to Oct. 31, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 18,109 (13,103). Pretax profit 2,71 24 (836). Total dividend 5.19p (4.2p).

● **Saxon Oil:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £139,000 (£41,000). Pretax profit £422,000 (£85,000).

● **Scottish Investment Trust:** Pretax revenue for three months to Jan. 31, 1984, £1.31m (£1.5m).

WALL STREET

	Feb 22	Feb 21
AMF Inc	14¼	14½
AMR	28¾	28⅞
Allied Chem	48	48
Allied Stores	42½	42½
Allis Chalmers	13⅞	14
Alcoa	37¾	38⅜
Amax Inc	24⅞	24⅞
Amerada Hess	30½	29⅞
Am Brands	57	57⅜
Am Broadcast	51	52⅝
Am Can	46¾	47
Am Cyanamid	43¾	44½
Am Elec Power	16¼	16⅞
Am Home	59	59¼
Am Motors	6⅞	6⅞
Am Nat Res	45⅞	45⅞
Am Standard	27½	27½
Am Telephone	16⅜	63⅞
Armco Steel	18½	19¼
Asarco	33½	31¼
Ashland Oil	27	27
Atlntic Richfield	45¾	46¾
Avco	25⅞	27
Avon Products	23⅞	23⅞
Bankers Tst NY	46⅞	47¾
Bank of America	20⅝	20⅝
Bank of Boston	41¼	40⅞
Bank of NY	30⅜	30½
Beatrice Foods	33½	34¼
Bethlehem Steel	22⅞	23¼
Boeing	42	42⅞
Boise Cascade	35½	36⅜
Borden	52	51¼
Borg Warner	20⅝	20¾
Bristol Myers	41⅞	42⅞
BP	24¼	24⅝
Burlington Ind	28	27¾
Burlington Nthn	83⅛	83½
Burroughs	46	46½
Campbell Soup	58⅜	58⅜
Canadian Pacific	35⅞	35⅜
Caterpillar	44⅞	44½
Celanese	68½	69¾
Central Soya	14¼	14¼
Chase Manhat	49¾	49⅞
Chem Bank NY	48¾	49⅞
Chrysler	26½	26⅝
Citicorp	33¾	36¼
Clark Equip	32¾	33¼
Coca Cola	49¾	50
Colgate	22½	21⅞
CBS	63¾	63⅞
Columbia Gas	34⅞	34⅞
Combustion Eng	31	31¼
Comwlth Edison	22⅞	23
Cons Edison	23⅛	23
Cons Foods	26¾	27
Cons Power	12¼	11½
Continental Grp	48⅞	48⅞
Control Data	35⅞	35¼
Corning Glass	61⅞	63
CPC Intnl	37	36¼
Crane	27½	27½
Crocker Int	27¼	27½
Crown Zeller	32⅞	32½
Dart & Kraft	66⅞	66
Deere	31⅛	31⅛
Delta Air	33⅞	32⅞
Detroit Edison	12⅞	12⅞
Disney	48⅞	49¼
Dow Chemical	27⅞	28½
Dresser Ind	17⅞	17½
Duke Power	23½	23½
Du Pont	44¼	43⅞
Eastern Air	6⅞	6⅞
Eastman Kodak	66¾	67¼
Eaton Corp	46⅞	46⅞
Esmark	39⅞	40¼
Evans P D.	7¼	7⅛
Exxon Corp	38⅜	38
Fed Dept Stores	51	51¼
Firestone	16⅞	17⅛
Fst Chicago	23⅞	25¾

	Feb 22	Feb 21
Fst Intrst Bncp	38⅞	39¼
Fst Penn Corp	6¾	6⅞
Ford	38½	39¼
GAF Corp	15½	15½
GTE Corp	39½	38¾
Gen Dynamics	49¼	49½
Gen Electric	52	51⅛
Gen Foods	47⅞	48¼
Gen Mills	44⅝	45¼
Gen Motors	67⅞	67⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	7⅞	7⅞
Gen Tire	30½	30½
Genesco	5⅝	6
Georgia Pacific	21⅞	22¼
Getty Oil	127½	127½
Gillette	45½	45½
Goodrich	30¾	31⅛
Goodyear	25½	26¾
Gould Inc	27½	27⅞
Grace	38¾	39¼
Gt Atltc & Pacific	12	12¼
Greyhound	22½	22⅞
Grumman Corp	23½	22⅞
Gulf Oil	58¼	52⅞
Gulf & West	29	28⅞
Heinz H. J	36¼	36¼
Hercules	29¾	30⅞
Honeywell	55¼	55
IC Inds	42⅞	42⅝
Ingersoll	45½	46
Inland Steel	25	25¼
IBM	109¼	109⅞
Int Harvester	10⅞	10⅞
INCO	13¾	13¼
Int Paper	49⅞	50⅞
Int Tel Tel	38½	39⅞
Irving Bank	61¼	61¼
Jewel Co	44	44½
Jim Walter	32	32
Johnson & John	34⅛	34⅛
Kaiser Alumin	16¼	16⅞
Kerr McGee	33¾	33¼
Kimberly Clark	86⅞	88
K Mart	28⅞	29
Kroger	31½	31½
L T V Corp	16⅞	17½
Litton	60	60¼
Lockheed	33½	33
Lucky Stores	16¼	16⅞
Manuf Hanover	39	39
Manville Cp	11⅛	11½
Mapco	24¼	24½
Marine Midland	25¼	25¼
Martin Marietta	31⅛	32
McDonnell	55⅜	56½
Mead	33¾	34
Merck	90	90¼
Minnesota Mng	73⅛	74
Mobil Oil	29⅞	29⅞
Monsanto	85⅞	88¼
Morgan J. P.	70⅞	71½
Motorola	115	112½
NCR Corp	111⅛	112½
NL Industries	13¾	15
Nabisco	41⅛	41⅞
Nat Distillers	26⅞	26½
Nat Med Ent	21⅛	21⅛
Norfolk South	55¼	55¼
NW Bancorp	30⅞	32½
Occidental Pet	27⅞	27⅞
Ogden	25⅞	26½
Olin Corp	26	28¼
Owens-Illinois	34⅛	34⅝
Pacific Gas Elec	13⅞	13⅞
Pan Am	6⅞	6⅞
Penney J C.	49⅞	50
Pennzoil	37¼	37¼
Pepsico	35½	35½
Pfizer	36⅞	35¼
Phelps Dodge	28	26¼
Philip Morris	67⅞	67⅞
Phillips Petrol	41⅞	42⅞
Polaroid	27⅞	27⅞

	Feb 22	Feb 21
PPG Ind	28⅜	27⅞
Proctor Gamble	46⅞	46⅞
Pub Ser El & Gas	21⅛	21⅛
Raytheon	39⅞	40⅞
RCA Corp	31⅞	31⅞
Republic Steel	21⅛	20⅞
Reynolds Ind	57⅞	58⅜
Reynolds Metal	30¼	30⅞
Rockwell Int	26⅞	27⅞
Royal Dutch	50⅞	50½
Safeways	24½	24¼
St Regis Paper	37½	37⅞
SFE Sopac	22½	22¾
SCM	34⅛	34½
Schlumberger	47⅞	46
Scott Paper	26⅜	25½
Seagram	32⅞	32⅞
Sears Roebuck	33⅞	34⅞
Shell Oil	56	55½
Shell Trans	36⅜	37
Signal Co	27⅛	28½
Singer	21⅛	20⅞
Smithkline Beck	55⅞	55⅞
Sony	15	14⅞
Sth Cal Edison	36¼	36⅞
Sperry Corp	38⅞	39⅞
Std Oil Califnia	36¾	36¼
Std Oil Indiana	52⅞	52⅞
Std Oil Ohio	47½	47
Sterling Drug	24½	24⅞
Stevens J. P.	21⅛	22⅜
Sun Comp	53⅞	53⅞
Teledyne	159⅞	157¼
Tenneco	39¼	39½
Texaco	39¼	38⅞
Texas East Corp	63⅞	64⅛
Texas Inst	126⅞	126
Texas Utilities	23	23¼
Textron	29¼	31
TWA	24¼	24¼
Travelers Corp	30⅞	31⅛
TRW Inc	68¼	67½
UAL Inc	29⅜	28⅞
Union Carbide	53¼	53⅞
Union Oil Calif	36⅛	35⅞
Un Pacific Corp	44⅞	44⅛
Uniroyal	12⅞	13¼
United Brands	30⅞	19⅞
US Industries	14⅞	13¼
US Steel	27⅞	28⅞
Utd Technol	60¼	60⅞
Wachovia	42⅞	47⅞
Warner Comms	24⅞	26⅞
Warner Lambert	31	31¼
Wells Fargo	36⅞	37⅛
Westnghse Elec	46⅞	47¼
Weyerhauser	29¾	30⅜
Whirlpool	40⅞	40½
Woolworth	31¼	31¼
Xerox Corp	41⅞	42⅞
Zenith	27	26⅞

Canadian Prices

	Feb 22	Feb 21
Abitibi	25⅞	25⅞
Alcan Alumin	41½	41⅛
Algoma Steel	26⅞	26½
Bell Telephone	30¼	30⅜
Cominco	56	55⅜
Cons Bathurst	26½	26⅞
Gulf Oil	16½	16½
Hawker/Sid Can	17	17
Imasco	32½	32⅞
Imperial Oil	35⅛	35⅛
Int Pipe	28½	29
Mass-Fergsn	4½	4½
Royal Trustco	25⅞	25⅞
Seagram	49⅞	40⅛
Steel Co	27⅞	27¼
Thomson N 'A'	37½	37½
Walker Hiram	25⅞	25⅞
WCT	14⅞	14⅞

•Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution h Bid k Market closed n New issue p Stock split t Traded y Unquoted.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	985.00-985.50
Three months	1006.00-1006.50
T O	6,150
Tone. Easy	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	974.00-975.00
Three months	995.00-996.00
T O	nil
Tone. Idle	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8445-8456
Three months	8583-8584
T O	366
Tone. Steady at the lower level	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8475-8485
Three months	8605-8610
T O	25
Tone. Quiet	
LEAD	
Cash	275.25-275.50
Three months	285.00m285.25
T O	8,610
Tone: Tone. Steadier.	
ZINC	
Cash	860-681
Three months	673.50-674.50
T O	6,100
Tone: Steadier after easier	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	659.00-660
Three months	675-675.5
T O	44
Tone. Easier	
SILVER SMALL	
Cash	659-660
Three months	674.00-675.00
T O	6
Tone. Quiet	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	995.50-996.50
Three months	1020.50-1021.00
T O	11,350
Tone. Steadier.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3156-3160
Three months	3234-3238
T O	2,136
Tone: Steady	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Apl	401.10-401.40
Jun	407.60-408.10
Aug	413.80-415.00
Oct	420.50-421.80
Dec	427.50-429.00

Vol 741 Tone. Uncertain

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Mar 84	5	4288
Jun 84	-	4328
Sep 84	-	-
Comment: Stable.		
STERLING		
Mar 84	467	1 4632
Jun 84	8	1 4666
Sep 84	4	1 4705
Comment: Much Imporved		
D-MARK		
Mar 84	295	3777
Jun 84	147	3818
Sep 84	-	3854
Comment: Strengthening.		
SWISS FRANC		
Mar 84	17	4590
Jun 84	5	4665
Sep 84	-	-
Comment: Better.		
EURODOLLARS		
Mar 84	1199	8997
Jun 84	3260	8946
Sep 84	263	8914
Dec 84	11	8884
Mar 85	5	8860
Comment: Easier		
SHORT STERLING		
Mar 84	311	9089
Jun 84	516	9066
Sep 84	96	9045
Dec 84	40	9027
Mar 85	20	9018
Comment: Firmer		
GILTS		
Mar 84	3370	10821
Jun 84	208	10804
Sep 84	5	10719
Dec 84	-	10703
Mar 85	-	10619
Comment: Easier.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 23
GB: Cattle, 95 26p per kg lw (-0 05).
GB: Sheep, 192 85p per kg est d c w (-2 65)
GB: Pigs, 84 97p per kg lw (+3 14).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos up 0 5 per cent. ave. price. 95 70p (-0 39)
Sheep nos up 2.5 per cent. ave. price. 193 22p (-2 98).
Pig nos down 5.8 per cent. ave. price. 84 97p (+3 14)
Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 17 1 per cent. ave. price. 93.64p (+0.68).
Sheep nos. down 16 2 per cent. ave price. 191.61p (-1 92)

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
Mar	£121 90	119.60
May	£124 35	120 30
Jly	£126.35	-
Sep	£109.00	105.80
Nov	£111.70	108.80
Jan	£114.60	111.80

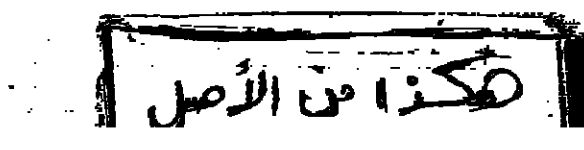
Total lots traded
Wheat. 275
Barley 115

● **Ramar Textiles:** Half-year to Nov. 25, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 9,075 (7,717). Pretax profits 348 (252). No tax (same). Mr M Radin, chairman, is confident that in the current half-year, the group will make continued progress.

● **Newbold & Burton Holdings:** Year to Dec. 31, 1983. Figures in £000. Sales 11,550 (10,644). Pretax profit 462 (118). Earnings per share up from 1.62p to 7.13p and total dividend raised from 3.78p to 4 15p net a share.

● **Abingworth:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983, compared with half-year to June 30, 1983. Figures in £000. Pretax profit 213 (295). Net assets per share at Dec. 31, 315p (340p at June 30).

● **Lornex Mining:** Net earnings for 1983, Can. $2.68m (about £1.48m), against a loss of Can. $11 14m for the previous year. Increased revenue, combined with lower expenses – and an improvement in net interest income – resulted in the 1983 profit.



Andrew Cornelius reports on GKN's bid for AE

Monopoly ruling could shape future of components industry

The next test of Britain's inconsistent competition policy will come with the decision whether to allow Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds to pursue its takeover attempt for the rival Midlands motor component manufacturer AE (formerly Associated Engineering).

The Monopolies Commission report on the takeover will be delivered to Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, any day now. His recommendation will follow next month.

Meantime, the leading companies in Britain's 1984-style leaner and fitter motor components industry await what they regard as a long overdue statement from the Government on main way ahead. Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, sees the report of the Monopolies Commission, and the Trade Secretary's response as crucial for the survival of an industry still smarting from the recession.

The shakeout by component makers has seen an averge 40 per cent cut in workforces between 1980 and 1983, and brought companies like Dunlop to their knees.

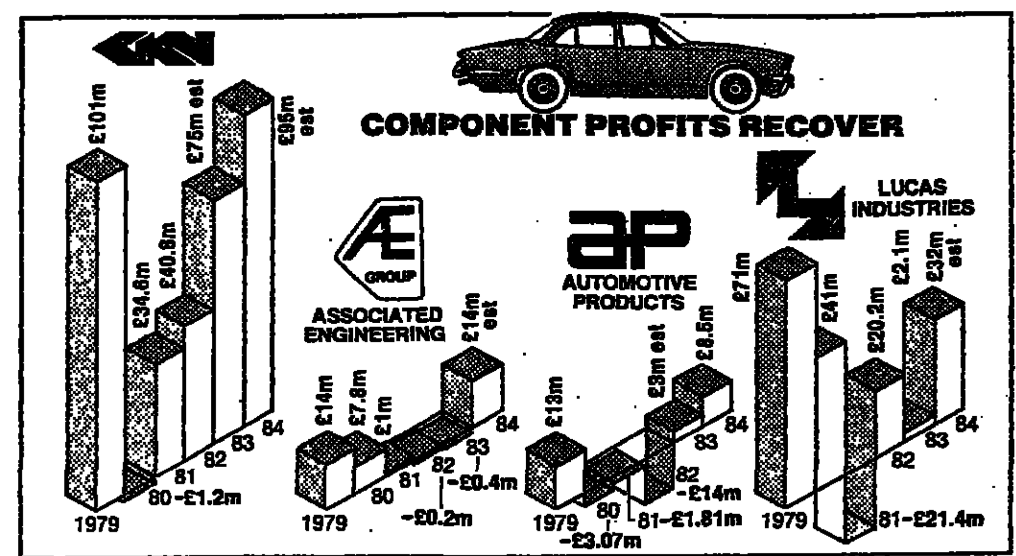
The process has cost GKN alone £200m. For that, the group was able to pay off half its workforce, bringing the number of British employees down to 35,000 and also to change the identity of the group. It is now firmly entrenched as an automotive company and no longer dependent on its broader-based steel, nuts and bolts and engineering businesses.

At AE, Automotive Products, Lucas Industries and smaller companies like Armstrong Equipment the story is much the same. AE's workforce is down by nearly half to 16,000 people. Automotive Products has reduced its Brtish workforce by more than 30 per cent to 8,700 people. Lucas has given warning that it must continue to cut jobs despite the draconian macsures taken already and, at Armstrong, two years of rationalization have reduced the workforce by half, to 4,100 people.

The effect on company balance sheets has been devastating. GKN plunged to losses of £1.2m in 1980 against pretax profits of £126m the previous year. The mighty Lucas Industries group, Britain's largest motor components group, last year made losses of £17.2m on components turnover of nearly £1 billion.

At the same time millions of pounds were wiped off the market capitalisation of the motor components sector, leaving companies like Dunlop vulnerable to any group wanting to build up a stake in a buyers' market.

Smaller companies like Armstrong, which manufactures exhausts and suspension struts, were available last year at about £6m, if judged by their market capitalization. Even at today's share levels the company is valued at little more than £12m. And in a recent report of the Lucas group, the brokers Phillips and Drew noted that Lucas is valued at less than twice its annual spending on research and development.



Yet despite the problems, there are signs that the British motor components industry is moving out of the disaster zone. Leading companies are beginning to move out of recession and analysts are forecasting improved profits in the current year in virtually every instance.

Sentiment was helped by the boom in car sales after the introduction of the A-plate registration last autumn. But increasingly the success of individual companies is being judged on their ability to penetrate overseas markets. For Automotive Products, which returned to the black at the halfway stage last year with pretax profits of £1m after losses of £14.1m in 1982, the turning point may have come with the announcement of a £15m-a-year contract to supply clutches and brakes to Fiat in Italy.

Car components industry shows signs of moving out of disaster zone

Most of the parts will be supplied from a factory built by AP at Savona, in north-west Italy. But Mr George Pears, the chairman, says the contract is an essential part of AP's strategy to raise revenue from abroad from 33 per cent to 50 per cent over the next five years.

Armstrong Equipment is also looking for increased profits from abroad, after clinching a deal to supply shock absorbers for a new Volkswagen car to be built in China. The contract could add £1m to profits over the next seven years and will help the company's return to profitability after losses of £1.1m in the year to last July.

The shakeout in the British market also helped to pave the way for the deal by Lucas Industries and Smiths Industries to establish a joint-venture automotive electronics company, Lucas Electrical Electronics & Systems. The new company began trading last April with an anticipated annual turnover of about £120m and 7,000 employees. The aim is to exploit a European market for electronics components worth £600m this year and likely to grow 30 per cent each year until the 1990s.

The deal sets a useful precedent for GKN in its campaign to win clearance for the AE takeover. Together, Lucas and Smiths have more than 75 per cent of the British market for automotive electronic components like ignition equipment, instrument systems, and display panels and engine management systems. But the new company was established with the support of the Department of Trade and Industry – in the shape of research grants – on the grounds that its share of the European market would be only 20 per cent.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth is puzzled by the apparent change of heart at the DTI in referring the bid for AE for investigation by the Monopolies Commission. Prviously the DTI had encouraged any moves to strengthen the British motor components industry so that it could compete on equal terms in a wider market place, he says. In the depths of the recession the Government had been prime mover in bringing about the type of deal proposed by GKN, he suggests.

A merger of GKN and AE clearly warrants an investigation in terms of the monopoly it would create in the supply of bearings, pistons and cylinder linings in Britain. Sir Trevor believes the Government is taking the opportunity to investigate once and for all the merits of defining the market place in European or world terms, rather than purely British.

In some respects he believes GKN has also suffered from changes at the level of secretary of State and top civil servants at the DTI. Almost overnight, years of close contact between GKN and the DTI were broken. The Government appeared to blow cold on its previous enthusiasm for creating a strong British motor components industry, possibly to be encouraged with the carrot of Government aid for restructuring.

Sir Trevor says that if the merger does not go through it could have potentially disastrous consequences for the British industry. He is adamant that unless the proposed force in engine parts which would be created by marrying AE's piston technology with GKN's transmission, axles and marketing skills, one of the companies will eventually die.

"The UK as a market place cannot afford to have too many of anything," he says. "The whole of the US has only two bearings manufacturers."

However, AE has found that there is still considerable hostility among motor manufacturers to the idea of creating a new force in component supply. Mr John Collyear, chairman of AE, estimates that Britain's share of the engine-bearings business in continental Europe would fall from 90 per cent to 60 per cent if the merger went through, as motor manufacturers avoided dependence upon one supplier.

His decision to mount a stiff defence ag[illegible] after agree[illegible] GKN befo[illegible] gation has [illegible] the hostilit[illegible] to the me[illegible] merger wi[illegible] jobs will [illegible] has alread[illegible] force." AE [illegible] question G[illegible] claim that [illegible] its leading [illegible] technology [illegible] GKN.

AE's bid [illegible] dent has been [illegible] month de[illegible] investigati[illegible] course fo[illegible] about £14[illegible] against £40[illegible] of 1983. [illegible] optimistic [illegible] of motor [illegible] move away [illegible] specialist item[illegible] like pistons, in favour of using outside suppliers, like AE offers great opportu[illegible]

If the deal does not go through, GKN has prepared an alternative strategy to increase links with foreign component manufacturers and invest resources outside Britain. The Government has to decide whether in the long run this will make the British market more competitive, or less.

APPOINTMENTS

STC names main board newcomers

Standard Telephones and Cables: Mr John Cottrell, managing director of STC Telecommunications, and Mr Jim Utterson, managing director of STC Communications International, have joined the main board.

Holt Lloyd: Mr C. R. Hunt has resigned from the board of Holt Lloyd International but joins the board of Holt Lloyd Ltd, the group's main British subsidiary next Monday, as director in charge of product distribution and administration.

Pork Farms: Mr Mike Wyatt is now sales and marketing director.

Frizzell Group: Mr K. B. Ohlson, managing director and chief executive of F. Bolton (Holdings), has joined the board.




Mr Colin Storm (above) has joined the board of Guinness Brewing as personal director

Credit Commercial de France (Securities): Mr Alain Fiorucci has been appointed managing director and chief executive.

Rank Hovis McDougall: Mr Patrick Best has become a non-executive director.

W. S. Atkins Group: Mr Joe Vincent has joined the board of Atkins Inspection Services and Mr Graham Law the board of Atkins Laboratories.

Associated Newspapers Group: Major-General P. Blunt becomes a director.

Dobson Park Industries: Following the acquisition of Britains Ltd, Mr G. J. Chibbett has been appointed chairman of that company. The previous chairman, Mr J. H. Thake, remains on the board in a consultative capacity. Mr Peter Lamb continues as managing director.

Anglo Nordic Holdings: Mr Tony Bell, director and general manager of Standen Engineering, is appointed managing director of Standen. At Leonard Mansley, Mr Keith Longley, director and general manager, is made managing director. At Bowker Brothers (Clitheroe), Mr Chris Gregory, sales and marketing manager, becomes sales and marketing director and Ms Maureen Goldsmith, accounts office manager, is appointed administration director.

Bath and Portland Group: Mr G. J. Robinson has joined the board.

Gill & Duffus Group: Mr John Barnes, a director, has been made deputy chief executive on his retirement in June. Mr Winthrop Wyman has joined the board, responsible for group activities in the US.

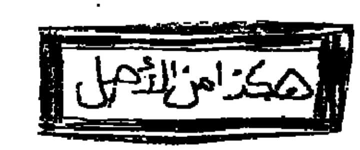
J. W. Spear & Sons: Mr Cyril J. Jones has been appointed a director.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10½%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¾%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.



Doctor's duty to inform patient of risk

Sidaway v Board of Governors of the Bethlem Royal Hospital and the Maudsley Hospital and Others

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson.

[Judgment delivered February 23]

The definition of the duty of care of a doctor regarding the disclosure of information to his patient was a matter for the law and the courts. The duty was fulfilled if the doctor acted in accordance with a practice rightly accepted as proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men.

The Master of the Rolls so stated when the Court of Appeal in reserved judgments dismissed the appeal of the plaintiff, Mrs Amy Doris Sidaway, of East Dulwich, London, from Mr Justice Skinner's dismissal on February 19, 1982 of her claim for damages for personal injuries and loss as a result of an operation carried out by Mr Murray A. Falconer, deceased, in the course of his engagement as a neuro-surgical consultant with the Governors of the Bethlem Hospital and the Maudsley Hospital, the first defendants.

The second defendants were sued as the executors of Mr Falconer.

Mrs Sidaway had claimed that the operation which had been proposed to, accepted and undergone by her carried an inherent specific risk of damage to the spinal cord which it had been the defendant's duty to disclose to her; that she had not been informed of that risk; that she would not have consented to the operation had she been told the existence of the risk; and that during the operation the supply of blood to her spinal cord was obstructed and she suffered damage.

Leave was granted to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr Leslie Joseph, QC and Mr Gerald Rabie for the plaintiff; Mr Adrian Whitfield, QC and Miss Nicola Davies for the defendants.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that medicine was not, and never had been, an exact science. Despite the exercise of the greatest skill, things could go wrong as they had in the case of Mrs Sidaway. She underwent an operation for the relief of pain and ended up severely disabled.

The issue was whether she should have been more fully informed of the risks before she agreed to the operation.

The judge had held that if she had been more fully informed she would not have agreed to undergo the operation. But he also held that she had been told as much as any patient would have been told by many responsible skilled and experienced neuro-surgeons. That, he held, was all in law she was entitled to expect and he dismissed her claim.

In 1958 Mrs Sidaway injured an elbow and, as a result, suffered persistent pain. When that had been relieved she experienced pain in her neck and right shoulder.

She was referred to Mr Falconer, a neuro-surgeon at the Maudsley. He correctly diagnosed a narrowing of the spinal column between the fifth and sixth vertebrae. An operation in December 1960 was successful. Mrs Sidaway described Mr Falconer as "a man of very, very few words".

In 1973 the pain recurred and Mr Falconer invited her to attend his out-patient clinic. He decided to do a further operation which took place in October 1974.

The operation consisted of a laminectomy of the fourth cervical vertebra and a facetectomy or foraminectomy of the disc space between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae.

The judge had found that the operation "carried an inherent risk that, even if the surgeon exercised proper care and skill, the spinal cord might be damaged . . . The risk was a material one, . . . a 1 to 2 per cent risk of ill effects ranging from the mild to the catastrophic."

The risk of damage to the spinal column appeared to be much less than that to the root of a nerve. But the consequences of damage to the spinal column were very much more serious. In Mrs Sidaway's case whatever went wrong produced a severe impairment on her right side and some ill effects on the left. Her loss had been assessed at £67,000.

The judge had concluded that Mr Falconer did not tell Mrs Sidaway that it was an operation of choice or an "elective operation" and that while he told her of the possibility of disturbing a nerve root, he did not refer to the danger of damage to the spinal cord.

He also held that in not telling Mrs Sidaway of those two very important factors, Mr Falconer was "following a practice which, in 1974, would have been accepted as proper by a responsible body of skilled and experienced neuro-surgeons".

In dismissing Mrs Sidaway's claim the judge directed himself the way in which Mr Justice McNair directed the jury in *Bolam v Friern Hospital Management Committee* ([1957] 1WLR 582). He declined to develop the law on the lines of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Reible v Hughes* ((1981) 114 DLR 3d 1,13).

The *Bolam* direction had been approved by the House of Lords in *Whitehouse v Jordan* ([1981] 1 WLR 246) and *Maynard v West Midlands Regional Health Authority* (*The Times*, May 9, 1983): "the test is the standard of the ordinary skilled man exercising and professing to have 'that special skill'...".

The submission that there had been no consideration or approval by the Court of Appeal or the House of Lords of the *Bolam* test in the context of a duty to inform the patient of the risks inherent in the proposed treatment was correct.

If there was no valid distinction, the *Bolam* direction must also be applied to that other aspect of the doctor-patient relationship as it had been applied at first instance in *Chatterton v Gerson* ([1981] 1QB 432) and *Hills v Potter* ([1983] 3 All E.R.716).

In both the law of England and of all the United States the consent of the patient was required to surgical operations, subject to certain immaterial exceptions. But in some of the United States it had been held that what was required to avoid a charge of assault or liability for trespass to the person was a consent based on knowledge of all the facts relevant to the formation of an intelligent and informed consent.

The starting point of the leading authority *Canterbury v Spence* ((1972) 464 Fed Rep 2nd 772) was expressed to be the concept, fundamental in American jurisprudence that "every human being of adult years and sound mind has a right to determine what shall be done wih his own body."

In *Reibl v Hughes* the Supreme Court of Canada rejected the concept that an uninformed consent to surgery was not a true consent.

His Lordship was satisfied that as a matter of English law a consent was not vitiated by a failure on the part of the doctor to give the patient sufficient information before the consent was given. It was only if the consent was obtained by fraud or misrepresentation that it could be said that an apparent consent was not a true consent. That was the position in the criminal law: see *R v Clarence* ((1888) 22 QBD 23, 43).

In the context of medical diagnosis and treatment the law was content to adopt the standard of the ordinary skilled medical man exercising and professing that special skill.

His Lordship did not regard it as self-evident that the same was true of the duty of disclosure. That was not intended as a criticism of the medical profession whose members were dedicated to saving life and maintaining health.

The concession that a patient who was of sound mind, sufficient age and capable of exercising a choice was entitled to grant or withhold consent to treatment as he saw fit must carry with it some duty to give information to the patient which would enable him, if so minded, to reach a rational decision.

What information should be disclosed, and how and when, was very much a matter for professional judgment in the context of the doctor's relationship with a particular patient in particular circumstances.

The general duty of a doctor to disclose information to his patient was to take such action by way of giving or withholding information as was reasonable in all the circumstances of which the doctor knew or ought to have known, including the patient's true wishes, with a view to placing the patient in a position to make a rational choice whether or not to accept the doctor's recommendation.

The definition of the duty of care was a matter for the law and the courts who could not stand idly by if the profession, by an excess of paternalism, denied their patients a real choice. The law would not permit the medical profession to play God.

The test was to add just one qualifying word ("rightly") to the law as the judge summarised it: "The duty is fulfilled if the doctor acts in accordance with a practice rightly accepted as proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men".

Mr Falconer had acted in accordance with a practice accepted as proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men. The question was whether it was a proper practice.

He had regarded the possibility of spinal cord damage as too remote to form any part of the basis of a judgment by Mrs Sidaway as to whether she should accept the treatment recommended by him.

The fact that in the event he had been proved wrong did not prove that he was negligent. His peers took the same view.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE DUNN, concurring, said that he did not believe that there was a separate and distinct duty ancillary to the doctor's general duty of care. Doctors treated patients and not diseases.

The nature of the warning and decision whether there was to be a warning formed part of the overall clinical judgment of the doctor which could only be tested by applying the standards of the profession.

The court should not interfere unless the clinical judgment of the doctor fell below the generally accepted standards of the profession.

Mr Justice McNair was right in *Bolam's* case. The doctrine of "informed consent" formed no part of English law. A contrary result would be damaging to the relationship of trust and confidence between doctor and patient and might have an adverse effect on the practice of medicine.

It was doubtful if it would be of any significant benefit to patients, most of whom preferred to put themselves unreservedly in the hands of their doctors. That was not paternalism but simply an acceptance of the doctor-patient relationship as it had developed in this country.

The principal effect of accepting the proposition advanced for the plaintiff would be likely to be an increase in the number of claims for professional negligence against doctors.

That would be likely to have an adverse effect on the general standard of medical care: doctors would be concerned to safeguard themselves rather than to concentrate on their primary duty of treating their patients.

LORD JUSTICE BROWNE-WILKINSON, also concurring, said that there was no ground in English law for extending the limited doctrine of informed consent outside the field of property rights.

The only example of the extension of fiduciary duties to other fields was the decision of the House of Lords in the *Hedley Byrne* case ([1964] AC 465).

Liability in negligence depended on the duty of care to be observed by the defendant; not on the rights of the plaintiff, other than the right not to be negligently injured.

The assumption of the role of adviser carried with it the duty to disclose material and unusual risks.

The proof of the performance of the duty was of practical importance. The crucial question was whether the steps taken were in all the circumstances reasonable.

That being a matter of professional judgment the balancing of risks and benefits must must be determined according to the *Bolam* test with one practical distinction.

Questions of disclosure were to be decided by reference to the practice of the profession save where that practice did not rely on the circumstances of the particular patient. It was important that the law should establish that there was a *prima facie* duty to inform.

Solicitors: Armstrong & Co, Forest Hill; Le Brasseur & Bury.

In Sutton v Secretary of State for the Environment (The Times February 23) the second clause of the second paragraph of Mr Justice McCullough's judgment should have read "sections 17(7), 14(1), (4)(b), 16(1), (2) strongly suggested that it should".

Wembley bingo bonanza was in breach of Gaming Act

Lock v Rank Leisure Ltd

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Taylor

[Judgment delivered February 22]

A club could not lawfully carry on gaming in respect of which money, apart from the stake hazarded, was charged, on premises which were not licensed under Part II of the Gaming Act 1968 unless they were its own premises.

Mr Justice Taylor, delivering a reserved judgment of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, so held, allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Brian Lock against a decision of the Gore Justices who on April 22, 1983 had dismissed an information laid by him against Rank Leisure Ltd, alleging that it on June 6, 1982, was concerned in the organization at the Wembley Conference Centre of gaming to which Part I of the 1968 Act applied in contravention of section 3 of that Act in that a charge of money was made in respect of that gaming, contrary to section 8 of that Act.

Section 3(1) of the Gaming Act 1968 provides: "No gaming to which [Part I] of this Act applies shall take place in circumstances where (apart from any stakes hazarded) a charge of money is made in respect of that gaming".

Section 40, as amended by the Gaming (Amendment) Act 1973, provides: "(1) This section applies to gaming which – (a) is carried on as one of the activities of a club or a miners' welfare institute, whether the club or institute is registered under Part II or Part III of this Act or not, and (b) is gaming in respect of which none of the conditions specified in section 2(1) [relating to the nature of the games played] is fulfilled.

"(2) . . . nothing in section 3 . . . of this Act shall have effect so as to prevent a charge from being made in respect of any person for the right to take part in gaming to which this section applies, if the charge is made in respect of that person for the right to take part in such gaming on any one day does not exceed . . . such . . . sum as may be specified in an order made by the secretary of state [15p] . . . The power of the secretary of state . . . includes power to specify – (a) in the case of gaming carried on as an activity of a members' club or a miners' welfare institute, a sum different from that applicable in the case of gaming carried out as an activity of any other club; and (b) in the case of gaming which consists exclusively of playing bridge or whist . . . a sum greater than that applicable in all other cases.

"(3) Any such charge as is mentioned in subsection (2) . . . may be made in addition to – (a) any stakes hazarded in the gaming . . . ."

Mr Vivian Robinson for the prosecutor; Mr Jarlath Finney for the defendant company.

MR JUSTICE TAYLOR said that the defendant owned and managed the Top Rank Club which had 68 premises licensed under Part II of the 1968 Act at which bingo was played. In March and April 1982 a special "Bonanza Game" was played during each bingo session in each of the local premises.

Any member taking part would pay 15p, which represented 10p stake money and 5p participation fee. The winner of each special game received his stake money back plus vouchers entitling him, *inter alia*, to participate in the "Bonanza Regional Final".

On June 6, 1982, the southern regional final took place at the conference centre, which was not licensed or registered under Part II of the 1968 Act. Only those with vouchers could take part and they paid nothing to do so. Prizes totalling £25,000 were distributed, including a first prize of £20,000.

Section 20(8) of the 1968 Act prohibited the awarding of such a prize for gaming on premises licensed or registered under Part II of the Act.

The defendant company had contended that section 40 applied to the regional final and that section 39 therefore did not apply to it. If that were right it would drive a coach and horses through the controls in the Act for the regulation of commercial gaming, and would create a new field of such gaming outside the categories specified in section 10(3) of the 1968 Act which it was the duty of the Gaming Board to keep under review.

Before its amendment in 1973, section 40 had applied to clubs only if they were membership clubs. The purpose of the amendment had been to permit proprietary clubs to charge for gaming without licence or registration where is was unlikely to be exploited for commercial ends, and to enable different charges to be permitted for different types of club and in particular to enable bridge and whist clubs to be treated more favourably than others.

Section 40 was not intended to apply in such a case as this. The Act as a whole was concerned with premises, and so the reference to registration in section 40 meant registration in respect of the relevant premises. It was plain from the scheme of the Act that "club" in section 40 included its premises. Reference to the marginal note to the section and to the preamble to the 1973 Act bore that out, referring as they did to gaming "at" clubs rather than "by" them.

Moreover there was no reference in section 40 to licence holders, licensed premises or licences, which indicated that Parliament did not intend a club holding licences to be free to promote commercial bingo outside the framework of the Act. Section 40 was only apt to cover gaming by the clubs or institutes it defined at the club or institute premises.

The defendant had also argued that even if section 40 did not apply, section 3 had not been contravened because no charge of money had been made at the final. The justices had rightly rejected that argument because to gain admission to the final it had been necessary to pay a 5p fee at the local heat. That charge had been made to finance the whole scheme up to and including the final.

The fact that no charge was made on June 6 could not be decisive, and it made no difference that many who paid at the local level would not get into the final: those who did get into the final could not have done so had they not paid the charge at heat level. It followed that section 3 had been contravened in respect of the final and the appeal would be allowed, the case being remitted to the justices with a direction to convict.

Solicitors: Metropolitan Police Solicitor; Richards Butler & Co.

Transfer of shares in breach of provision in articles

Tett v Phoenix & Investment Co Ltd and others

Before Mr Justice Vinelott

[Judgment delivered February 23]

A share transfer in breach of a pre-emption provision in the articles of a company was an effective transfer, although inchoate until registered.

Mr Justice Vinelott so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division granting the plaintiff, Mr Colin Charles Tett, a declaration that the transfer of 90 shares in the Phoenix Property & Investment Co Ltd to him was a valid and lawful transfer which passed the property in the shares to him and that he was entitled to be registered in the company's register of members as the holder of the shares.

Mr Richard Mawrey for Mr Tett; Mr John Brisby for the company.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that on February 26, 1982, 90 shares were transferred to Mr Tett in breach of article 5 of the company's articles of association which prohibited a member from offering his shares for sale unless they had previously been offered to other members.

Mr Brisby submitted that the transfer was wholly void and conferred no right or interest. A transfer which was void from the moment of its existence did not become a valid transfer because the pre-emption provisions were subsequently complied with. He based that submission on *Hunter v Hunter* ([1936] AC 223).

His Lordship rejected that submission. He thought that the correct analysis of *Hunter v Hunter* in that respect was elucidated by Mr Justice Black in *Re Hafner* ([1943] IR 426) and Mr Justice Vaisey in *Hawks v McArthur* ([1951] 1 All ER 22).

The true position was that the transfer of February 26 was a complete and effective transfer as between the transferor and Mr Tett although, to adopt the language of Mr Justice Stirling in *Roots v Williamson* ((1888) 38 Ch D 485) it was inchoate until registered and did not constitute Mr Tett the legal owner of the shares.

Solicitors: L. O. Glenister & Sons, Eastcote; Hewitt Woolacott & Chown.

Accepting hearsay

Regina v Southampton City Council, Ex parte Ward and Another

Nothing in the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 required a local authority to act as if it were a court of law and reject hearsay evidence or require it to be confirmed by other information when it considered whether an applicant for accommodation under the Act was intentionally homeless; the authority was required to act reasonably.

Likewise there was no need for all the information discovered by the authority to be put to the applicant 'chapter and verse' to give him an opportunity to deal with it before the authority could take that information into account.

Mr Justice McCullough so stated in the Queen's Bench Division on February 21, dismissing an application for judicial review of a determination of Southampton City Council that the applicants were intentionally homeless.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Certainly, sir . . . why not take an extra £25,000?

By Michael Prest

One can easily see why other budding entrepreneurs might be a little envious of Shaun Merrick and Chris Robinson. After all, it is not every day that two young men with just another bright idea for computer software ask Barclays for a £65,000 helping hand and find the bank manager falling over himself to lend them £90,000.

But Merrick, 30, and Robinson, 29, entered the bank at Finsbury Pavement with some advantages. Both are graduates of the Manchester Business School, where they met, and the business plan, 100 pages long, with which they confronted the bank undoubtedly reflected that training.

More pertinent, perhaps - they had a good idea. While working in the corporate treasurer's department at Esso, Merrick realized that most treasurers and finance directors do not enjoy instant access to all the information they require.

The answer was Micro Treasurer, a program whose name referred to its ability to run on most makes of business micro computers rather than to the stature of finance directors. The program took about nine months to develop after Merrick and Robinson founded Swallow Business Systems (no particular reasons for the name, it just sounded nice, says Merrick) at the beginning of the last year. A further £115,000 from the National Computing Centre under the Department of Trade and Industry's Software Products Scheme smoothed the path.

Micro Treasurer will handle most money market instruments including Certificates of Deposits, Eurobonds, foreign exchange contracts, time loans and deposit acceptances. Moreover, it will compare actual transactions with cash flow forecasts and objectives and enables the treasurer to perform "what if" calculations, somewhat in the manner of a conventional spreadsheet.

The treasurer can also assess various bank bids from a data base of quotations, and the programme automatically prepares and prints confirmation letters and internal advice notes.

But in case all that sounds rather formidable, Merrick emphasizes that Micro Treasurer is not aimed at awesome multinationals only. Companies of all sizes in The Times 1,000 have been represented among approximately 100 enquiries and 20 sales Swallow has made since October. Indeed, the relative simplicity of the program may appeal to smaller companies which have not already made heavy investments in computer systems.

The price may appeal as well. One of the marketing hurdles Swallow had to leap was customers' belief that the original price of £1,650 was too low for a product which was any good. Merrick and his three colleagues promptly and happily increased it to £2,500. But even there, they claim, it is well below the competition.

After a slow start, sales are now running at two a week, encouraged by only a few small advertisements.

Swallow estimates, however, that its market is limited to about 500 companies. Merrick and Robinson are equally well aware that competitors arise in the software market like mushrooms spring up overnight. So work has already started in the smart, modern units rented in a converted building in Hammersmith on increasing the attractions of Micro Treasurer.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

How the worker co-ops grow

By Derek Harris

Britain's first trade fair for worker co-operatives, held in London over two days this week, attracted nearly 130 co-operatives including some from France, Spain and the Irish Republic.

It was sufficiently successful – even to a spate of orders being reported by a number of exhibitors – that plans are being discussed for subsequent trade fairs in mainland Europe and in Dublin.

The fair showed that while the number of co-ops is growing – there are now more than 800 in Britain – their spread is spilling out beyond the old confines of traditional manufacturing like furniture and low-to-medium technology engineering or clothing and footwear.

There were nine co-ops involved in computers and videos. Others ranged from a book club specialising in non-sexist books for children to a manufacturer of ethnic toys.

Ivor Richard, EEC Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs, said the Commission had decided to step up its support for worker co-ops and disclosed it was about to launch an investigation into tax and legal problems facing co-ops in Europe. An attempt will also be made to improve information exchange on co-ops to foster faster growth.

Five years' growth in worker co-ops had raised the number of jobs provided within co-ops from 300,000 to more than 550,000 throughout Europe.

Greater London Enterprise Board announced it will be sending a team to Spain this weekend to study the Mondragon co-operative movement to see how far the development of large manufacturers could be duplicated in the London area. The number of co-ops in London increased by 100 during last year.

Picture: Sarah King



Four women and a man, all in their twenties and early thirties and from a mixture of cultural backgrounds, are working as a co-operative, breaking into the highly specialized but growing sector of stained glass window design and production. Restoration of old stained glass windows is also part of their business.

Glasslight Studios, which has been exhibiting at the London worker co-operative trade fair this week, was launched 18 months ago in workshops in the old harbour area of Swansea near the city centre.

Behind it are three single girls, Lydia Marouf, Krysia Zienkiewicz, from Poland, and Catrin Jones – left to right in the picture – together with Elizabeth Edmundson (from California and married) and Jaroslav Myskia, a married Czech.

Miss Marouf, whose parents were Palestinians, estimates that turnover of the studios in their first full year should be around £50,000. All five met at art college in Swansea

60 seminars to ease lending

A series of seminars to help accountants and bankers improve their services to small businesses are to be held around England and Wales from April to June, organized for the Department of Trade and Industry by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the Association of Certified Accountants.

Some 60 seminars are being organized to explore two areas – one, the overall financing of small businesses and the other a detailed briefing on Government grants and advisory services.

It is the second series of seminars so far organized; before the first series last year it was reckoned that only 12 per cent of professional advisers were generally aware of all the schemes available to help small businesses. The proportion subsequently rose to 42 per cent, but the new seminars are an attempt to improve on this.

David Trippier, minister for small businesses, is now considering whether to launch some seminars on marketing in the small business sector.

After the Budget the Department will be producing a new booklet linking with the seminars called "Help for Growing Businesses". It will be a ready-reference covering among other things all Government measures to help small businesses.

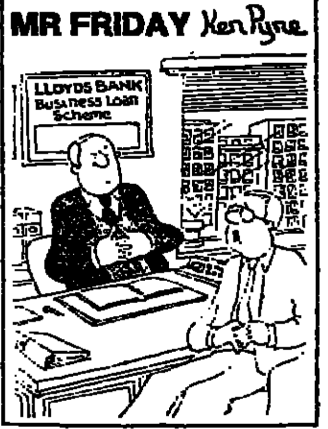
There are twin seminars on each of the two areas being explored: the cost for both is £15 and for one £10.

● Contact: DTI Seminars, PO Box 433, Moorgate Place, London EC2P 2BJ; telephone (01) 628 7060, ext 544.

Barclays Bank is linking with the **Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA)** in a smaller business scheme offering loans between £2,000 and £25,000 to cover capital expenditure projects. CoSIRA has a not dissimilar scheme already operating with National Westminster Bank.

Both fixed and variable interest terms are offered, but the fixed interest will, for instance, be one per cent below Barclay's normal fixed interest loan schemes, reflecting CoSIRA's specialist knowledge in assessing small business projects.

MR FRIDAY Ken Pyne



"Actually I need the money to help with my repayments on my Natwest loan"

Loans for 10 years or less can be unsecured, for which the fixed rate would be 14 per cent. Variable rates are: secured, 2.5 per cent over base rate and unsecured 3 per cent over base rate. Negotiation fee is 0.5 per cent with a £250 maximum. CoSIRA helps to prepare business plans for presentation to the bank.

● *Contact: either local Barclays branch or CoSIRA, 141 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 3TP, telephone (0722) 336255.*

BRIEFING

To brief British companies on export oportunities offered by contracts funded by the Asian Development Bank, Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce is staging a two-day conference, on May 1 and 2, at the De Vere Hotel, Coventry. There are pickings for smaller as well as larger companies, according to Bob Fordham, the chamber's president. The Philippines-based bank's lending is now approaching £1,250m a year and covers most countries in Asia and the South Pacific. Among the many sectors involved are agriculture, industry, energy, infrastructure, communications and transport.

●*Contact: D L Burrows, conference executive, Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, PO Box 360, 75 Harbourne Road, Birmingham B15 3DH; telephone: (021) 454 6171; telex: 338024 BIRCOM G.*

Debate unresolved by S Africans

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

There is little objectivity over sport and South Africa any more. One can therefore go to two press conferences in the space of four hours and find, at one, two leading South African sports administrators pressing their country's claim for re-admittance to the world sporting arena and, at the same time, feeling compelled to disclaim any attempt at propaganda; while at the second, the president of an English sporting body plays the deadest of dead bats on the subject of touring South Africa because he knows that his every word will be dissected several times over by a variety of interested parties.

Rudolph Opperman and Denis McIldowie, president and vice-president respectively of the South African Olympic and National Games Association, return home today after a 10-day visit to Britain during which they had confidential talks in London, attended the England-Ireland rugby international without discussing the projected England tour to South Africa, and invited Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, to head a Commonwealth commission to investigate the state of South African sport.

Since the Gleneagles Agreement was drawn up in 1977, laying down guidelines for sporting contact with South Africa, five fact-finding commissions have visited the republic: "We have complied with what other have asked us to do," Mr Opperman said yesterday. "We want the sportsmen who represent 28 million people to be allowed back."

The nub of the pro-South Africa argument is that the sportsmen have done everything which could be reasonably expected of them: the nub of the anti-apartheid bodies is that normal sport cannot exist in an abnormal society. The question that remains unresolved between the two sides is how one can expect sporting organizations to force a national government to alter one of the basic tenets by which it stands.

Restrictive laws, specifically the Liquor Act, the Group Areas Act and the Black Urban Areas Consolidation Act, have all been amended to exlude sportsmen, which may not comfort those black or coloured people who do not play games but is at least a beginning. Claims that such progress has come entirely as a result of the sporting boycott of South Africa brought the comment from Mr McIldowie that sporting administrators had been demanding change since the mid-1950s, well before the boycott came along.

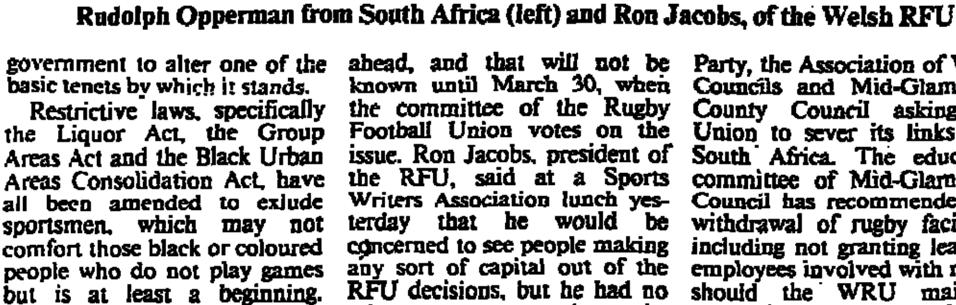
Sporting associations in South Africa have been asked to refrain from any kind of action which might harm the Olympic Games in Los Angeles this summer, and it is Mr Opperman's hope that an International Olympic Committee delegation will visit South Africa after this year's Games.

Whether such a visit takes place could depend on whether England's rugby tour goes ahead, and that will not be known until March 30, when the committee of the Rugby Football Union votes on the issue. Ron Jacobs, president of the RFU, said at a Sports Writers Association lunch yesterday that he would be concerned to see people making any sort of capital out of the RFU decisions, but he had no other comment to make on the tour.

"I think the other sporting bodies (in England) take the view that what we do is up to us." Mr Jacobs added. It may be some comfort to him that the Welsh Rugby Union have a related problem on their hands, since they have invited three players from each of the other seven International Board countries – which includes South Africa – to make up the Welsh President's team to play Wales on April 7, which is celebrating the completion of the National Stadium at Cardiff Arms Park.

The WRU has received letters from, among others, the Welsh Parliamentary Labour Party, the Association of Wlesh Councils and Mid-Glamorgan County Council asking the Union to sever its links with South Africa. The education committee of Mid-Glamorgan Council has recommended the withdrawal of rugby facilities, including not granting leave to employees involved with rugby, should the WRU maintain those links, while the leisure and amenities committee of Swansea City Council has recommended withdrawing the use of the St Helens ground if a team containing South Africans intends to play there.

The President's team had been due to play Captain Crawshay's XV at St Helens on April 3 in a game designed both as a warm-up for the main event the following Saturday and to raise funds for the WRU charitable trust for injured players. That match has now been switched to Stradey Park, Llanelli, and Ray Williams, secretary to the WRU, said yesterday: "We must be allowed to conduct our own affairs as we think fit."



Rudolph Opperman from South Africa (left) and Ron Jacobs, of the Welsh RFU

Lagisquet's injury gives Bégu his first cap

By David Hands

Jacques Bégu will win his first cap in the French team who play England in Paris on March 3. Bégu, aged 27, will join his Dax colleague, Lescarboura, in the back division because of an injury suffered by Lagisquet, the Bayonne right wing.

Lagisquet broke a bone in his left hand playing in a French Cup match and will be out for a fortnigh. After winning his fifth cap against Wales last Saturday, Lagisquet was switched to the left wing and the selectors brought Estève over to the right but they now seem likely to leave Estève on the left and bring in Bégu on the right.

Bégu has been a regular member of France's B team over the last three seasons. He scored a try against Wales in the B international last December and was in the side beaten 13-10 at Albi last Saturday by Scotland B. Though he was called into the senior squad after Lagisquet's injury was known, it appears the selectors did contemplate other possibilities before making their final decision. Blanco, their full back, for instance has played on the wing and they have capped both Lafond and Gabernet at full back earlier this season.

Yorkshire prominent in northern squad

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

Relatively little rugby is played in the south at this time as many schools play only in the Christmas term, but a fine win, 26-3, was registered by Kent over Middlesex on Wednesday, with Preston, of Crown Woods School, a lively flanker, helping himself to three of the four Kent tries.

Judd School from Tonbridge, were not quite as successful as the county, going down 13-7 to Campion School at the weekend. It was a case of Judd's pack against Campion's backs. Shortly after half-time the scores were level, but a magnificent try following a move that swept half the length of field, clinched the match for Campion.

West Park, from St Helens, remain unbeaten, with their most recent win giving them as much pleasure as any. Whenever West Park meet Cowley, who are consistently one of the best sides in the country, a vintage contest watched by a large crowd, always results.

This year was no exception, even though Cowley, by their own high standards, are enjoying an indifferent season. The teams met on Wednesday wached by a crowd in excess of 1,000. West Park won their twenty-fifth match of the season 25-7, after leading 10-3 at the interval, a scoreline which Cowley improved with a try shortly after half-time during a period of considerable ascendancy.

West Park had scored a try after only 14 seconds, through G Taylor, which he also converted. Atherton, the West Park right wing, scored three tries and Simms one, with Taylor adding a penalty. Cowley's points came from a penalty by Fazackerley and a try from Dean, their right wing.

West Park now need victories over King Edward VII, Lytham and Ormskirk Grammar School to maintain their unbeaten records. On March 14 they meet Winstanley College, who are also unbeaten, at Manchester RUFC, in the semi-final of the Manchester Schools' Cup, for which they are clear favourites.

On Sunday they defend their Waterloo Schools Cup title, a fifteen-a-side knock-out tournament played along the lines of the highly successful Preston All-England Festival, organized by Waterloo.

Cardiff hitch

Cardiff rugby club's planned trip to the West Indies this summer is in jeopardy because of their South African tour in 1982. An invitation from the Barbados Rugby Football Union has been accepted, but the island's government is expected to decide next month whether to allow Cardiff to tour.

Four cheers for a man who face-lifted the game

By Gerald Davies

A small, though for those with an interest in the minutiae of rugby football not insignificant, ceremony took place in the form of a cerebratory luncheon at Cardiff Rugby Club yesterday.

One hundred years ago to the day (February 23, 1884) one of the club's players, Frank Hancock, had been chosen to play as a second centre so as to make up, for the first time, a full complement of four threequarters which, though it did not become immediately acceptable, began the formation of the back division which rugby teams have followed to this day.

Although Scotland had introduced the three threequarter system in 1881, there was no rigid pattern. Some clubs might use two full backs, three threequarters and two half backs; others might consider two at full back to be superfluous and to put them back into the forwards which could number nine or 10 of the players.

On February 9, 1884 Cardiff had promoted Hancock to the first team to make up the third threequarter to play against Cheltenham College, which was considered a difficult fixture. Because he scored two tries in that match Cardiff were reluctant to omit him; nor did they want to exclude any others from the next match against Gloucester at home on February 23. So the club improvized and kept Hancock in the team to make four threequarters in all.

Ironically, that match ended in a draw without any points being scored but Cardiff retained the formation for most of the remaining fixtures of that season. Other clubs began to follow the pattern. In the 1885-86 season, with Hancock as captain, Cardiff adopted the system throughout and won 26 consecutive matches of the 27 they played and scored 131 tries.

Hancock, famous for his "corkscrew runs", played for Wales and in 1886 the national side played with four threequarters, as did all Welsh clubs by this time. He belonged to a family of famous South Wales brewers, William Hancock and Company who, in the rash of mergers that happened in the brewery trade in the 1970s, is these days a constituent company of Welsh Brewers Ltd.

So with the respect for tradition and a fondness for such celebrations which is such a part of rugby, a painting of Frank Hancock was unvailed yesterday at the Cardiff club. It was commissioned by Welsh Brewers and painted by the Pontypridd artist, Richard Spencer Dean.

It was unveiled at 1.0 by Derek Bryer, representing Welsh Brewers, and Tony Williams, chairman of Cardiff Rugby Club. At 2.0, the kick-off time 100 years ago, they drank a toast in memory of Frank Hancock and the way he revolutionized the game.

While Wales, and Cardiff in particular, can take the accolade for the present threequarter formation, it ought to be remembered that Frank Hancock, despite playing for Wales, was an Englishman from Somerset. His brother, Froude Hancock, played for England.

Colin Smart could be fit for England's final championship game against Wales, at Twickenham on March 17. Following an operation on his Achilles tendon in December, the loose head prop turned out for a college side last Sunday

Another warning on violence

The Rugby Football Union are to send reminders to all affiliated clubs about the selection of players known to have been guilty of violent play on the field. (David Hands writes). It is a timely warning because of the increased exposure on television to acts of violence, and also because of the difficulties faced by referees in controlling such players.

"We feel quite strongly that selection committees have as much influence as anybody," Ron Jacobs, President of the RFU, said yesterday. "We are quite determined to stamp it out, but this is a good deal easier said than done."

Mr Jacobs agreed that it would help if the four home unions were to adopt a uniform policy in the punishment of players sent off during matches. At present England impose an automatic 30-day suspension and refuse to consider a banned player for internationals that same season. "But we have not been able to persuade the other unions that our policy is the best one," Mr Jacobs said.

Man from nowhere still haunts Sibson

From Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent Paris

Tony Sibson, for whom something always seems to go wrong in training – from too many cream-cakes and Mars bars to not enough sparring – said yesterday: "I've got it right this time."

Sibson, who came here five days ago to finish off his preparation for his challenge for the European middleweight title, has been sparring solidly in a gym seven miles from his hotel in the centre of the city with Frank Winterstein, a former opponent of Louis Acaries, the champion. One day he even walked to the top of the Eiffel Tower.

All this activity, one might imagine, would induce a sound sleep at night; but the Leicester boxer's sleep has been restless. The reason for this is that the has one man on his mind, night and day. That man is not the champion but the young American upstart, a substitute's substitute's substitute, Don Lee, who dumped Sibson on his bottom in Atlantic City last month. Sibson went tumbling out of the ratings into which, cool as you please, the American moves up from nowhere.

"That fight is the biggest regret of my career", Sibson said yesterday. "I hate losing and the first thing I'll do after winning back my title is give Don Lee a beating. That is why I have been training so hard."

He admitted that it had been his own fault that he had been so casual about the Lee bout. He said he had been booked to box Bobby Cycz and when that fell through his connexions started seeking one substitute after another.

And while they looked he was "sinking deeper and deeper into my armchair, waiting for the fight which I did not want in the first place. I went in there thinking of Lee as a warm-up for the European championship. I was looking for a nice easy time. It all went wrong. It'll never happen again. Those days of drab, boring fights are over. I am no longer my own executioner."

Sibson's tossing and turning in bed has made him, curiously, all the sharper and meaner. Thanks to the defeat by Marvin Hagler, Sibson claims that he was in exactly the same state of mind before his contest with John Collins in Alantic City. "And I did a really good job on Collins," he said.

Sibson brushes the 30-year-old French champions aside, saying: "When I was European champion I never knew who Acaries was." Every thought in his mind keeps going back to Don Lee. I suspect that on Saturday, at the Bercy Stadium, Sibon will be seeing Lee in Acaries.

● Lloyd Honnegan, of Britain, the official leading challenger, will meet Gilles Elbilia, of France, the holder, for the European welterweight title. The European Boxing Union today put the purse to tender, with all offers to be received by March 8 and the arrangements to be completed by March 14.



Cable: tactical display

Cable in no hurry to fight again

Jimmy Cable, the new British light middleweight champion, will not rush into a European title bout with Herol Graham, of Sheffield, after his superb tactical display to beat Nick Wilshire, on Wednesday night.

Cable is determined to carve out a secure future for his family. A clash with Graham is the obvious move, but Doug Bidwell, manager of the 26 year-old from Orpington, wants to keep his options open.

Bidwell said: "It was a fantastic performance by Jimmy because he has always been so under-rated, and once again one of my fighters has pulled off a major turn-up against the odds.

"I want time to consider before deciding Jimmy's next fight. I am not sure if a meeting with Graham would be a big money spinner or good for the public. He is always difficult to beat and is not very exciting to watch."

If Cable, the official European nomination, turns down that chance, Bidwell believes he can arrange some attractive international opposition and a possible trip to America.

There is sure to be a British defence against Prince Rodney, who gave up the title after injuring his jaw in training, but is expected back in action in June. Cable injured his right hand in the seventh round and sees a specialist today for treatment.

MILAN: WBA light-featherweight championships Loris Stecca (It) bt Leonardo Cruz (holder, Dom Rep), 12th.

Barton's hopes darken as Kendall's grow brighter

By Stuart Jones,
Football Correspondent

Two managers looked out of the windows at Villa Park on Wednesday night and saw scenery as different as summer and winter. Howard Kendall, of Everton, caught sight of Wembley's twin towers shimmering on the dazzling horizon and Tony Barton, of Aston Villa, could scarcely ignore a dark silhouete that looked suspiciously like the gallows.

How swiftly their outlooks have altered. Within two months Kendall has heard soft whispers calling for his resignation become deep roars of support as his side reached the final of the Milk Cup but beating Villa 2-1 on aggregate, as well as the last eight of the FA Cup.

Some 21 months ago Barton became only the fifth British manager to claim the European Cup, but now the head of reportedly the lowest paid manager in the first division is expected to roll. Words of warning have already spilled from the lips of Villa's chairman, Doug Ellis, who stated that "this club will not stand for consistent failure".

With colleagues like that, Barton needs no critics. His record hardly belongs in the category of "consistent failure" since Villa also won the Super Cup last season by defeating the brutal Spaniards of Barcelona. He merely had the misfortune to start his career by setting standards that were impossible to follow.

Luck has not been Barton's closest companion this season either. His successful team have been slowly dismantled by lack of money and injuries. McNaught, a reliable central defensive partner with Evans, left for financial reasons and Cowans, arguably his most gifted player, his yet to recover from a broken leg, sustained before the season began.

Barton. . . under pressure

Shaw and Bremner have been ruled out of more than half of their fixtures (Evans alone has appeared in all of them). Spink has recently committed some inexplicable goal-keeping errors (one of them may have cost Villa a place in the final) and their League form remains curiously unbalanced. No first division club has won more games at home, none has won fewer away.

Barton, aware of the current uncertainty, is to meet two of his unsettled players next week. He will ask Shaw, whose name has been linked with Manchester United as well as some continental clubs, and Williams "to sign long-term contracts or the offers withdrawn." His job otherwise is "to lift the team towards a place in Europe".

While Barton was left to contemplate his future, Kendall reflected on his "proudest moment as a manager". Although the lone goal by Rideout, Villa's substitute, ended Everton's run of 14 games without defeat, he was delighted by the performance that was disciplined rather than adventurous, dour rather than inspired.

After Heath and Sharp had both struck the woodwork in the opening half-hour, Everton contained an attack that sparkeld only near the end. When Shaw and Walters, Morley's replacement, are out of form, Villa lack the touch of delicacy upon which so much of their recent success has been founded.

Although there are fears that Wembley may not be full on March 25, Kendall claimed that the final, to be televised live for the first time, "will make history because the fans will make it a special occasion". And if the prospect of meeting their neighbours was not awesome enough, Everton must endure a dress rehearsal at home in eight days. Their visitors next Saturday are Liverpool.

Jules Rimet replica

Rio de Janeiro, (Reuter) – The international football federation (FIFA) have authorised a West German jeweller to make a replica of the Jules Rimet trophy, the old World Cup which was stolen from the headquarters of the Brazilian Football Federation last December.

Millwall change

Millwall have brought forward their League match with Bradford City from Sunday, March 11 to Saturday, March 10 because of a clash with the live television of the FA Cup tie between Sheffield Wednesday and Southampton.

● Mike Pejic, the former Stoke City, Everton and Aston Villa defender, whose playing career was cut short by injury, has been appointed manager of Leek Town of the North-West Counties League.

Wilkie set to become Gateshead chairman

By Paul Newman

Ray Wilkie, the manager who took Gateshead into the Alliance Premier League, is set to become chairman of the club. Eddie Hill, the present chairman, has told his fellow directors that he will probably resign at the end of the season for business and personal reasons.

Mr Hill said yesterday: "The board wanted to make sure that someone would be ready to take over from me. We decided that the person with the ideal passion and commitment for the club was Ray."

Wilkie, who is believed to be the only unpaid manager in senior semi-professional football, is already on the Board of Directors. He became manager in 1977, when the present club was formed out of the ruins of Gateheasd United, which had in turn succeeded thr former Football League club, which went out of existence in 1973.

His record has been remarkable, for although the present club inherited a place in the Northern Premier League in 1977 they had to start from scratch in all other respects. They are also the worst-supported club in the Alliance, their attendances averaging only 300.

Terry Hibbitt, the former Leeds United, Birmingham City and Newcastle United midfield player, is the present player-coach and is likely to succeed Wilkie as manager. He has taken on additional duties in recent weeks, including team selection.

● Worcester City have appointed Bobby Shinton and Brian Forsbrook joint caretaker managers in succession to Nobby Clark. Shinton, the former Wrexham and Newcastle forward, joined Worcester as a player earlier this season from Millwall. Forsbrook rejoined Worcester from Stourbridge last season

Clark, who was dismissed, had been with Worcester for more than nine years and was the longest serving manager in the Alliance. Worcester are the best supported club in the Alliance but have failed to fulfil their potential; they have never finished higher than third and are currently below halfway.

● The supporters of Kettering Town have been given a direct say in the running of their club. The supporters' club recently helped John Murphy, the Kettering chairman, resist a take-over bid and under an agreement reached with him they now have a substantial shareholding and three places on a new Board of Directors.

● At the request of the Football Association, the Eastern Counties League have delayed until the 1985-86 season their plan to form a second division. A number of the clubs which had agreed to join are from the Essex Senior League, which would have had difficulty surviving the loss.

Burns goes on loan

Kenny Burns joined Derby County on loan yesterday after the Football League had lifted their transfer embargo on the hard-up second division club. Burns, a Scottish defender signed from Leeds, makes his debut against Huddersfield on Saturday in place of suspended Dave Watson, at centre half.

The league sought confirmation that Derby had paid off existing debts to Nottingham Forest, Oldham and Chesterfield before easing their transfer restrictions. "Derby have settled their debts with all other league clubs and we have lifted the ban," confirmed a League spokesman.

Derby have also taken steps to settle up with Norwich and the Football Association after last Saturday's fifth round Cup tie.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

MILK CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Aston Villa 1, Everton 0 (aggregate 1-2: Everton meet Liverpool in final, March 25).
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' CUP: First round: Chester 21, Blackpool 1 (aet: 1-1 at full time); Exeter 3, Bristol City 1: Hereford 0, Port Vale 1; Lincoln 0, Doncaster 2: Oxford 1, Swindon 3; Rochdale 0, Preston 3: Stockport 2, Crewe 2 (aet: 1-1 at full time: Crewe won 3-8 on penalties).
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Aberdeen 0, Celtic 0. Semi-final, second leg: Rangers 2, Dundee United 0 (Aggregate 3-1).
SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Airdrieonians 0, Partick Thistle 0.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Kettering 0, Frickley 1.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Second round replay: Burton 1, Horwich 2 (aet).
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 1, Bolton 2; Sunderland 2, Sheffield United 1; West Bromwich Albion 1, Newcastle 1. Second division: Huddersfield 3, Oldham 2.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Millwall 3, Ipswich 2; Oxford United v West Ham, postponed.
IRISH LEAGUE: Cliftonville 0, Crusaders 1.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Feltham 1, Metropolitan Police 5 (at Met Police).
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware v Chalfont St Peter, postponed.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: RS Southampton v Waterlooville, postponed.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Hendon 3, Isthmian League XI 1; FA XI 4 London University 1.

Walsall go to Swindon

Walsall travel to Swindon in the second round of the Associate Members Cup, the new competition for third and fourth division clubs. Swindon sprang a surprise in the first round by winning at Oxford, a feat beyond Manchester United and Everton this season.

Plymouth, the FA Cup quarter-finalists, have a home tie against Brentford and will probably qualify even if they lose as the two highest-scoring losers in each section go into the next round.

SECOND ROUND DRAW: North: Hull City v Bury, Doncaster v Preston, Sheffield United v Bradford City, Tranmere v Chester, Scunthorpe v Crewe Alexandra, Burnley v Darlington. South: Swindon v Walsall, Plymouth v Brentford, Newport or Bristol Rovers v Port Vale, Colchester v Southend, Millwall or Gillingham v Bournemouth, Wrexham v Exeter.

BADMINTON

Uncertain air hangs over new event

From Richard Eaton, Ostend

There was a hint of upset in the air as the European zone of the first joint Thomas Cup and Uber Cup event got underway, at Ostend, yesterday.

The Danes, over the years the strongest European badminton nation, flirted with disaster in the women's event before beating Holland 3-2. Influenza undermined the England men's chance of an expected meeting with Sweden in Saturday's semi-final and replacements for slippery and bumpy courts had to be hastily summoned. Courts expected from England had apparently been held up at customs.

Grete Mogensen, playing her first full international for Denmark, and Inge Borgstrom, partnering her for the first time, lost to Eline Coene and Marjan Ridder, requiring their country to win the final encounter against Holland to survive.

Mrs Borgstrom, went off to bed with influenza after her match and did not see her team mates repair the damage and go on to five goal win later in the day against Iceland.

England's leading doubles player Martin Dew, was also confined to bed with influenza, which meant England's No 1 Steve Baddeley, himself still recovering from a similar ailment, had to form a new doubles partnership against Norway with Mike Tredgett. He is not yet fit enough to play singles, and unfortunately the rules permit no replacements to be summoned from England. England's women had 5-0 wins against both West Germany and the host country, Belgium.

Gillian Gilks, the former world No 1, appears to have recovered from the worst of her cold despite a bout of explosive coughing after one of the matches. In the absence of Nora Perry, due to give birth at any moment, Mrs Gilks and Karen Beckman looked England's best partnership.

ROWING

Untroubled waters

By a Special Correspondent

The second day of the Oxford Torpids saw further excellent racing, although this was marred at times by some poor coxing. Even in higher divisions. In the men's first division Oriel had another untroubled day while Keble rowed over behind them. Christ Church, as predicted, continued to make rapid progress and bumped Worcester well before the Gut.

At the top of the women's first division Osler House, coached by Benedictine monk Nick O'Sullivan, bumped Lady Margaret Hall and went Head for the first time in the club's history.

Wednesday
DIVISION I: Brasenose bpd University; St Edmund Hall bpd Queen's; Pembroke bpd Balliol; Christ Church bpd Exeter.
DIVISION II: Corpus Christie bpd Pembroke II; Keble II bpd Trinity; Brasenose II, Wadham, Hertford, St Catherine's and Jesus bpd New College; Wadham bpd Hertford.
WOMEN'S DIVISION I: Pembroke and St Hugh's bpd St Anne's Pembroke bpd St Hugh's; Osler House and Lady Margaret Hall bpd Jesus.
WOMEN'S DIVISION II: St Hilda's II bpd Magdalen; St Hugh's II bpd Lady Margaret Hall II; Lincoln bpd Trinity; Balliol and Trinity bpd Hertford; University bpd Wolfson.
WOMEN'S DIVISION III: St Catherine's II bpd St Hilda's III; St Hugh's bpd St Edmund Hall.
DIVISION III: Wadham II bpd Balliol II; Lincoln II bpd Worcester II; ChristChurch II and University II bpd Oriel III; Wolfson, St Peter's and Mansfield bpd Merton.
DIVISION IV: Regent's Park, Oriel IV, Exeter III, Brasenose II and St Catherine's II bpd Keble III; New College II bpd Brasenose II; St Edmund Hall II bpd Jesus II.
DIVISION V: Jesus III and Corpus Christi II bpd Keble IV; St John's III bpd Wadham III; St Anne's and Worcester III bpd St Peter's II; Hertford II, Lady Margaret Hall and Queen's III bpd Oriel V.
DIVISION VI: Oriel VI, Christ Church III and St Catherin's IV bpd Keble VI; Trinity II bpd St Anne's II; Lady Margaret Hall II bpd Brasenose III; Jesus III bpd Linacre.
DIVISION VII: Exeter IV and Trinity IV bpd Lincoln III; Lady Margaret Hall III bpd Trinity III; St Edmund Hall III bpd Merton II; Mansfield II bpd Magdalen II; Linacre II bpd Balliol III

RUGBY LEAGUE

Beardmore and Rathbone suspended

By Keith Macklin

The sendings off of Kevin Beardmore, of Castleford, and Alan Rathbone, of Bradford Northern, after a violent scuffle towards the end of last Sunday's championship game brought painful repercussions yesterday. At a meeting of the disciplinary committee in Leeds both players were suspended and will miss Sunday's Challenge Cup ties. Rathbone was suspended for two games and Beardmore for one, though Beardmore will today make a last-ditch appeal against his sentence.

Because of the imminence of the Cup ties there were a dozen personal appearances before the committee yesterday, many of them to no avail, in terms of salvaging Cup-tie places. Steve O'Neill (Widnes) got two matches, Joe Doherty (Fulham) tow matches, Lyndsey Gill (Wakefield Trinity) a four-match ban for two offences, and Alan Sinclair (Oldham) and Neil Lean (Hunslet) one match each. It was a busy disciplinary meeting, with several players involved in charges without making personal appearances.

There were suspensions for one match for Roy Dickinson (Leeds), Keith England (Castleford), Andy Goodway (Oldham) and Chris Arkwright (St Helens). Wally Lewis, the Australian half back who had a period as guest with Wakefield Trinity, received a two-match suspension and the sentence will remain on his file to be served if he returned to play in this country.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	170	270	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	1
Excellent pistes in all areas							
Arosa	125	180	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-4
Good skiing on and off piste							
Courmayeur	250	350	Good	Powder	Closed	Fine	-3
Good skiing everywhere							
Grindelwald	40	150	Good	Varied	Good	Sun	-1
Skiing remains excellent							
Isola	120	140	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-6
Heavy snowfall for 2 days							
Klosters	90	170	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Good skiing conditions							
La Plagne	175	335	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-1
Good skiing everywhere							
Leysin	150	250	Good	Spring	Good	Fine	5
Thin layer of fresh snow							
Mürren	160	235	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	0
Ideal skiing conditions							
St Anton	160	400	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-2
Powder on north facing slopes							
Seefeld	115	195	Good	Heavy	Good	Cloud	-2
Upper slopes becoming icy							
Tignes	170	260	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-2
Excellent pistes all areas							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:

FRANCE

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Alpe d'Huez	260	490			
Chamonix	115	330			
Courchevel	185	230			
La Clusaz	170	260			
Le Corbier	150	300			
Les Contamines		135	350		
Les Deux Alpes	120	350			
Les Gets	160	280			
Les Menuires	170	250		–	
Megève	190	230		–	
Maribel	145	230		–	
Montgenevre	110	160		–	
Morzine	120	300		–	
Pra-Loup	110	130		–	
St Gervais	80	230		–	
Superdevoluy	160	280		–	
Val d'Isère	150	250		–	

SWITZERLAND

Adelboden	70	150	Pwdr	-	-10
Braunwald	160	210	Pwdr	-	-7
Champéry	30	160	Pwdr	-	-3
Château d'Oex	100	130	Pwdr	-	-7
Disentis	120	220	Pwdr	-	-6
Engelberg	80	180	Pwdr	-	-10
Kandersteg	50	120	Pwdr	-	-9
Laax-Flims	150	250	Pwdr	-	-6
Lenk	70	180	Pwdr	-	-12
Lenzerheide	140	190	Pwdr	-	-7
Les Diablerets	100	150	Pwdr	-	-11
Pontresina	50	100	Pwdr	-	-19
St Cergue	100	170	Pwdr	-	-3
Savognin	60	120	Pwdr	-	-9
Unterwasser	80	150	Pwdr	-	-7

GERMANY

Berchtesgaden	40	snow	-	-2
Garmisch	61	Pwdr	-	-5
Mittenwald	52	Old snow	-	-8
Oberjoch	150	Pwdr	-	-8
Oberstaufen	80	Pwdr	-	-10

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

ITALIAN CUP: Fifth round, second leg: Bari 2, Juventus 2 (Bari win on aggregate 4-3); Ascoli 2, Sampdoria 2 (agg: 2-3); Fiorentina 1, Cesena 0 (agg: 2-1); AC Milan 2, Vicenza 1 (agg: 3-1); Torino 3, Varese 0 (agg: 3-1); AS Roma 1, Reggiana 0 (agg: 3-0); Verona 3, Avellino 0 (agg 3-1). Udinese 2, Triestina 0 (agg: 2-0).
IRISH CUP: Second round replay: Distillery 1, Glenavon 1 (Second replay, Feb 27, 3.30).
MIDWEEK LEAGUE CUP: Bournemouth 0, Brentford 1
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bradford City 4, Rotherham 2.

BADMINTON

UBER CUP (Women's championship) Ostend: England 5, Belgium 0 (English names first): K Beckman bt I Swiggers, 11-3, 11-3; J Webster bt N Demey, 11-3, 11-3; F Elliott bt A Boucquiaux, 11-1, 11-2; Webster and B Sutton bt Swiggers and G Vanhaverbeke, 15-9, 15-8; K Chapman and H Troke bt Demey and S Langenaekens, 15-0, 15-1. Scotland 4, West Germany 1 (Scottish names first): A Fulton lost to H Krickhaus, 6-11, 10-12; P Hamilton bt C Hopper, 11-2, 11-2; S Bell bt E Hokal, 11-3, 11-3; Fulton and M Johnson bt Hokal and M Hegemann, 15-10, 15-6; Hamilton and L Baker bt Hopper and G Zadewater, 15-10, 15-9. Sweden 5, Iceland 0: Denmark 3, Netherlands 2. Other results: Canada 5, Peru 0; Taiwan 5, United States 0, India 4, Thailand 1; China 5, Australia 0: Hongkong 3, Australia 2; Hongkong 3, New Zealand 2.
THOMAS CUP: Ostend: Sweden 5, Finland 0: Denmark 5, Zambia 0: Scotland 5 Iceland 0 (Scots names first): A White b Kristiansson 2-15, 15-11, 15-3; K Middlemass bt T Haengsson 15-8, 15-4, G Hamilton bt J Kjartansson 7-15, 15-9, 15-12; W Gilliland and D Travers bt G Adolfsson and Kristiansson 15-1, 15-1; White and I Pringle bt Kjartansson and S Arnason 15-1, 15-4.

SNOW REPORTS

SCOTLAND.
Cairngorm: Upper, middle runs: complete, wide cover of new snow with icy patches. Lower slopes: complete, wide cover of new snow on a hard base. Vertical runs: 1,800 ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 1,500 ft. Glenshee: Upper runs: complete, hard packed snow with icy patches. Lower slopes: ample nursery areas, hard packed snow with icy patches. Vertical runs: 1,000 ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000 ft. Glencoe: no report. Lecht: Upper, middle runs: complete, wide cover of hard packed snow with many icy patches. Lower slopes: ample nursery areas, hard packed snow with many icy patches. Vertical runs: 700 ft. Hill, main roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000 ft.

SNOOKER

IPSWICH: Tolly Cobbold Classic: Semi final: T Knowles (Bolton) bt C Thorburn (Can) 5-3.

GOLF

PRETORIA: Sunshine Circuit Tournament: Second round leaders: (South African unless stated): 133: S Hobday 66, 67; N Price 66, 67. 135: G Levenson 66, 69. 136: R Lincoln 68, 68; P Simmons 65, 71; D Games (US) 68, 68; D Feherty (GB) 67, 69; A Johnstone (Sim) 69, 67. 137: F Edmonds (Can) 67, 70; D Sann (US) 68, 69; T Classens 70, 67; W Humphreys (GB) 67, 70; C Moody (GB) 68, 69; A Henning 69, 68. 138: J Gonzales (Br) 68, 70; D Frost 68, 70; J Bland 67, 71; H Baiocchi 67, 71; P Harrison (GB) 67, 71; J Hawkes 70, 68. Other British scores: 140: N Job 69, 71; G Turner 68, 72. 141: A Oldcorn 71, 70. 142: S Bennett 68, 74. 143: A Sutcliffe 73, 70; N Godin 71, 72; C Elliot 69, 74. 144: G Brand Jun 71, 73; T O'Nion 69, 75; M Thomas 71, 73; I Mosey 76, 78.
HONGKONG: Open tournament: First round leaders: 65: Y Yamamoto (Jap); O Moore (Aus). 66: T Gale (Aus); W Brask (US); 67: K Cox (US). 68: B Waites (GB), Shen Chung Shyan (Tai), R Alarcon (Mex), M James (GB), S Kanai (Jap), M Ozaki (Jap), H Meshiai (Jap), A Russell (US) M McLean (GB). 69: Choi Yoon Soon (South Korea), J Hart (US), M Clayton (Aus), T Ozaki (Jap), W Pierot (US). Other british scores: 72: M King. 73: R Rafferty, E Darcy (GB). 74: P Way, J Carr, S Lyle. 75: S Torrance
LAGOS: Nigerian Open Championship: First round leaders: (British unless stated): 65. M Johnson, W Longmuir.
67: B Setoidor (Nigeria) P Akakasiaka (Nigeria), E Murray.
68 A Forsbrand (Swe), K Kinell (Swe), C Oiwu (Nigeria), G Brand sen.
69. S Doe, M Miller, S Martin, I Woosnam, J Morgan, J Anderson (Can).
70: D Jones, M Gregson, P Kent, G Ralph, Udumoh (Nigeria), F Makelami (Nigeria), J Labbé (Sierra Leone), S Hadfield, P Sewell, G Cullen, A Jacklin.
JAKARTA: Indonesian Women's Open: First round leaders (US unless stated): 72: Huang Yuah Chyn (Tai). 73: R Comstock, B Kelly. 74: L Alderette, K Rinker, S Nakao (Jap), D Patterson, D Reid (GB). 75: M B Murphy, C Flom, M Uenda (Jap), S Furlong, Tai Yu-Hsia (Tai). 76: D Dowling (GB).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First Division: Crystal Palace 80 (McCray 24 Kellerman 15) Sunderland 71 (Brandon 21, Weerren 18) Solent Stars 81 (Johnson 25). Leicester 63 (Ayton 15)

CRICKET

MADRAS: Women's one-day international: India 219 for 6 Australia 220 for 4 (43.4 overs) Australia win series 4-0.

IN BRIEF

Athens (Reuter) – The Greek Government said yesterday that they would not oppose plans to allow commercial sponsorship of the running of the Olympic flame across the United States to the Games in Los Angeles in July.

SNOOKER: Tony Knowles, of Bolton, overcame a 1-3 deficit to reach the final of the Tolly Cobbold tournament in Ipswich yesterday. He beat Canada's Cliff Thorburn 5-3.

ROWING: Mike Sweeney, a former Cambridge stroke and president, will umpire this year's Boat Race on March 17.

CURLING: The 1968 world championships will be held in Toronto from March 31 to April 6. This year's event will be held in Duluth, Minnesota, and next year's in Glasgow, Scotland.

GOLF: Yoshitaka Yamamoto, of Japan, and Ossie Moore, of Australia, returned five-under-par 65s today for a one-stroke lead after the opening round of the Hongkong Open, the first leg of the Asian circuit. Britain's Mark James, runner-up last year, was in a group of nine on 68.

SQUASH: British players took the men's and women's titles in the Finnish Open championships in Helsinki. The left-handed Geoff Williams won the men's after beating Jan-Olof Soederberg, of Sweden, in three games and in the women's event, victory went to Lisa Opie, who needed four games to beat Carin Clonda, of Australia.

SPONSORSHIP: Women's sport in Northern Ireland received some sweet news from the Sugar Bureau yesterday, with the announcement of a sponsorship programme designed to assist netball, squash, badminton and synchronized swimming. The under-21 netball international between the UK and Republic of Ireland, in Belfast, on March 3 and 4, willl be the first event to benefit from the scheme.

RACING

Mellor's young chaser can collect again

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The clash between Lean Ar Aghaidh and Lettoch in the Manor Novices Steeplechase at Kempton Park this afternoon promises to be a competitive contest.

Lean ArAghaidh is the horse that Eric Wheeler, Stan Mellor's experienced head lad, suggested might win a Cheltenham Gold Cup and that was before he had even run over hurdles, let alone fences.

Watching him hurdling last season I found the suggestion of Lean Ar Aghaidh winning the blue riband of steeplechasing hard to comprehend. But in recent weeks he has begun to put his act together and started to justify the high opinion that Wheeler has always had of him.

Good ground and a greater distance have probably been the key to his success story this season. Lean Ar Aghaidh is far too good a mover to cope with boggy conditions underfoot. He is also by Proverb, who won the Goodwood and Doncaster Cups in his heyday and it is hardly surprising that Lean Ar Aghaidh has begun to flourish when racing over at least three miles.

Lettoch at one time would have been an automatic choice for this event following those wins at Stratford, Ayr and Newcastle. But his defeat at Towcester last week provoked doubts and I prefer to go for the horse in form from a stable which is also in form.

Fulke Walwyn's yard is another that is currently on a crest and the master of Saxon House, in Upper Lambourn, should win both divisions of the Ashford Novices Hurdle with Flying Squad (2.15) and Bold Print (4.45). The latter is owned by Fulke's twin sister Helen Johnson Houghton.

At Sandown Park a week ago Bold Print ran well enough against Bajam Sunshine to fan the flames of hope that he should be up to beating Show House and Goldyke.

Artifice, that popular old war horse trained in Somerset by John Thorne, reverts to active service in the Emblem Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Steeplechase after an enforced absence following an injury sustained at Sandown in the Autumn when he slipped up in the flat, irritatingly with the race at his mercy.

At the time it was feared that he might never race again but recent reports have been much more encouraging and he is taken to stage a perfect come-back now by beating Spinning Saint.

With Further Thought, Loyal Partner, Roadhead and Easter Eel all standing their ground we are assured of a good spectacle in the Corinthian Hunters' Chase. I can still recall, all too vividly, Easter Eel beating Dramatist over today's course and distance when he was just a fledgling at the game and you need not be blessed with a wild imagination to picture him being good enough to win today's race if he is right, especially as he is still trained by Fred Winter. Furthermore, he will be ridden by the trainer's son-in-law, Oliver Sherwood and there are no better amateurs than him currently riding.

Midnight Court, another inmate of Winter's stable, is earmarked for the Hunter Chase at Southwell. He won the Gold Cup at Cheltenham in his heyday, but this time recent form and fitness points to Urser.



Desert Orchid, David Elsworth's exciting front-runner, forging clear in the Kingwell Pattern Hurdle at Wincanton yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Bregawn refusal so perplexing

By Michael Seely

Bregawn became the mystery horse of the 1984 Cheltenham Gold Cup after a dramatic and perplexing refusal at the 15th fence behind Burrough Hill Lad in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup at Wincanton yesterday. Graham Bradley, the man who rode Bregawn to victory in the big race last year, was as surprised as anyone. "He suddenly propped going into the jump and nearly fell. After that Bregawn dug in his toes and did not want to know. It was amazing. He was going grand and running as sweet as a nut beforehand. He's never done anything like that before."

Jenny Pitman, on the other hand, was overjoyed after Burrough Hill Lad had been left clear to win unchallenged from Button Boy and Giddycan, the only other two runners. "That was just what was wanted. I didn't want him to have too hard a race. You can say that I am now confident that Burrough Hill Lad will win the Gold Cup."

Burrough Hill Lad had made his only mistake at the same fence as Bregawn. "John Francome said that he was distracted by the other horse instead of minding his own business." Mrs Pitman is certainly always supercharged by the adrenalin of her success in her moments of triumph. "That's seen Silver Buck and Bregawn out of the way. Now we'll have to see what we can do to Michael Dickinson and Wayward Lad at Cheltenham."

The trainer is entitled to be jubilant. In the space of under two months Burrough Hill Lad has collected four races worth over £40,000. During the same period he has progressed from winning the Welsh National under 10st 9lb to disputing favouritism with Wayward Lad for the Gold Cup at 9-4. But realistically Bregawn's quick and economical jumping prior to his refusal had been impressive. And Wayward Lad, Captain John and Brown Chamberlin are all cast in the same mould as the 1983 winner.

Bregawn is known to have a mind of his own and was left 15 lengths at the start of the Jim Ford before finishing runner-up to Combs Ditch in the same race last year. But yesterday's incident certainly poses a further question mark. Bradley hit the nail on the head when he said: "Bregawn doesn't like being on his own and the track doesn't suit him. But we'll still have to pray that he doesn't still do the same thing at Cheltenham."

There was also a Cheltenham glint in David Elsworth's eye after Desert Orchid's impressive victory in the Kingwell Pattern Hurdle. 25-1 is now the top price on offer against Richard Burridge's bold front running-grey for the Champion hurdle.

Desert Orchid has now won six of his seven starts this season and his defeat of Stan's Pride and Very Promising certainly entitles the five-year old to be considered for championship status. "I am realistic about the whole thing," said the Whitsbury trainer, "and if the weather forecast is bad the weekend before Desert Orchid will probably go for the Deep Wealth Hurdle at Chepstow instead. But if the going is good I'd like to have a go at the big one, particularly as I backed Desert Orchid at 50-1."

Francome continues to ride like a man inspired and the champion jockey went on to complete a double when bringing Pelion home 25 lengths clear of Our White Hart in the first division of the Mere Maiden Hurdle.

Fulke Walwyn is certainly another man in form. After Mark Bradstock had ridden Cloncormick to a half length victory over Jubilee Medal in the opening Fonthill Handicap Chase, the grand old man of steeplechasing said: "After my four winners last Saturday and Rose Ravine's victory at Warwick yesterday, I have now had six runners without any of them being beaten." Cloncormick now goes to the Grand Military meeting at Sandown prior to attempting to repeating the stable's 1982 triumph with Beacon Time in the Kaltenberg Pils – formerly the Topham Trophy – at Liverpool.

Rowe breaks the ice

Richard Rowe, the Findon-based jockey, returned to form when landing a Folkestone double on Camp Dunphy and Oula Owl.

Rowe broke his collar bone on Ryedale at Newbury on December 30, and has aggravated the injury on several occasions since. He must have despaired of riding a winner in 1984, and both his successes yesterday were hard earned.

He was seen at his strongest getting Oula Owl home by a head from Shenton Way in the Valentine Gorton Hurdle. Oula Owl had disputed most of the running with Dodgy Future until approaching the last, where the latter dropped out and Shenton Way came to challenge. On the run-in, Shenton Way appeared to be going the stronger, but Rowe conjured an extra effort from his mount and they got up near the line.

John Jenkins, who trains Shenton Way, confirmed his charge a definite runner at Cheltenham. But Stan Mellor was very disappointed with Dodgy Future. He said: "The sticky ground choked him up a bit. I'll have his heart checked."

Rowe also had a hard struggle to initiate his double on Camp Dunphy, who gained a one and a half lengths victory over Rebeg in the North Foreland Novices' Hurdle. Camp Dunphy, sent from Ireland by his owner Roger O'Byrne to the Findon trainer, is up for sale.

Drops O'Brandy gave a splendid display of jumping when coming home three lengths ahead of Bujoji in the Metropole National Trial Handicap Chase. He is not in the Grand National, but his trainer, John Edwards, said: "Maybe next year."

● Buck House earned a 33-1 quote for the Champion Hurdle after winning the W T O'Grady Memorial Hurdle at Thurles yesterday.

Kempton Park

GOING: soft.
Tote: double 3.15, 4.15. Treble 2.45, 3.45, 4.45

2.15 ASHFORD NOVICES' HURDLE (Div I: £1,089: 2m) (15 runners)

101 4-12042 DESTINY BAY (G Johnson) N Henderson 6-11-5 ... H Davies
103 000-123 FLYING SQUAD (D) (Lord Fermoy) F Walwyn 6-11-5 ... S Sherwood
108 0 BARGILL (F Winter) F Winter 5-11-0 ... J Francome
109 0300 BORDER SIGNAL (Miss O Lee) A Pitt 5-11-0 ... R Berry
110 CATARACT (P Wates) R Gow 5-11-0 ... A Webber
111 043001 DEEP IN DEBT (Mrs P Jubert) P Haynes 5-11-0 ... P Corrigan 7
112 GRANULAR BASE (G Perry) I Wardle 6-11-0 ... K Mooney
113 30044/2 GRIMA (M Pridham) I Dudgeon 7-11-0 ... M Richards 4
114 f0 IRON BILLY (B Pearl) Mrs A Finch 5-11-0 ... P Scudamore
116 000 NOVEMBER RAIN (Mrs J Ramsay) D Oughton 6-11-0 ... -
117 0 BALTINA (Mrs E Mitchell) N Mitchell 6-10-9 ... B Powell 7
118 0-p00 COME WHAT MAY (Miss L Aitken) H O'Neill 7-10-9 ... M Hammond 4
119 DAPHNES PET (C Bravery) C Bravery 5-10-9 ... R Muggeridge 7
121 p303 RHEFFANOSA (Summerhill Stud) Miss A Sinclair 5-10-9 ... C Brown
122 0-040 WELSH SAPPHIRE (Mrs M Hallett) T Hallett 8-10-9 ... L Bloomfield 4

1983: Deep Wealth 5-11-10 R Linley (4-5 fav) F Winter 22 ran.

9-4 Destiny Bay, 100-30 Grima, 7-2 Flying Squad, 9-2 Deep In Debt, 6 Bargill, 14 Border Signal, 16 Rheffanosa, 20 others.

2.45 MANOR NOVICES' CHASE (£2,206: 3m) (8)

202 p0-0140 CO MEMBER (D) (Mrs J Finding) T Forster 8-11-10 ... H Davies
203 002141 FIRST GLANCE (C,D) (D Elsworth) D Elsworth 8-11-10 ... -
204 210111 LEAN AR AGHAIDH (C) (Mrs W Tulloch) S Mellor 7-11-10 ... M Perrett
205 10-1112 LETTOCH (BF) (J Laurie) M Dickinson 7-11-10 ... G Bradley
212 2r2121 VIEWED AWAY (D) (Mrs L Clay) T Clay 9-11-10 ... P Croucher 7
215 000-210 FLAMTEX LAD (Texapin Ltd) R Hoad 7-11-5 ... M Hoad 7
220 04-3004 PORTABOUGY (F Grigor) J Webber 9-11-5 ... G McCourt
227 0-p0ppp WADSWICK LAD (R Barton) R Barton 8-11-5 ... P Richards

1983: Acarine 7-11-10 P Scudamore (13-8 fav) P W Harris 10 ran.

4-5 Lean Ar Aghaidh, 11-8 Lettoch, 14 Co Member, 16 First Glance, Viewed Away, 25 others.

3.15 LITTLETON HANDICAP HURDLE (4-y-o: £1,198: 2m 4f) (10)

301 01431 GALLANT BUCK (J Stott) D Elsworth 12-1 (8 ex) ... R Arnott 7
304 01 MATIN (Lord Matthews) Mrs C Reavey 11-4 ... G McCourt
306 221 UP THE ANTE (R Jordan) N Henderson 10-12 ... H Davies
308 430f WITH A LITTLE BIT (B) (Duke of Devonshire) F Walwyn 10-12 ... W Smith
309 23004 WELSH OAK (G Amey) D Gandolfo 10-11 ... P Barton
310 04030 TARLETON ELM (D Myers) Mrs N Smith 10-10 ... C Brown
311 030 TO-ONERO-MOU (J Daniels) J D Davies 10-8 ... L Mancini 7
312 0004 CELTIC PROMISE (H Hough) P Mitchell 10-6 ... H Davies
313 02340 WOOLOOWARE (J Cribb) G Balding 10-6 ... B Reilly
315 4002 FEELS RIGHT (Sheikh Amin Dahlawi) D Nicholson 10-4 ... P Scudamore

1983: Derouleda 10-8 B Reilly (7-2 jt fav) G Balding 13 ran.

5-2 Matin, 7-2 Up The Ante, 5 Gallant Buck, With A Little Bit, 8 Feels Right, 10 Wooloowere, 12 Welsh Oak, 14 Celtic Promise, 16 others.

3.45 CORINTHIAN HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £1,612: 3m) (10)

401 /0111-1 FURTHER THOUGHT (D) (Mrs V Bergh) Mrs Vanden Bergh 9-12-10 ... T Thomson Jones
402 331-p33 LOYAL PARTNER (BF) (Mrs L CLay) T Clay 10-12-10 ... T Grantham 7
403 ff/04-3 BALLET MASTER (D) (Mrs G Hodgkiss) Mrs G Hodgkiss 11-12-7 ... T Jackson 7
404 22/13-2 ROADHEAD (C,D) (BF) (J Wilson) J Gifford 11-12-7 ... Miss M Wilson 7
405 4021u0- BALLYDONAGH (D) Lady Eliza Nugent) D Nugent 11-12-5 ... A J Wilson
406 281/20- EASTER EEL (C,D) (J Mulch) F Winter 13-12-5 ... O Sherwood
408 0042p-0 ROMAN BAR (B) (Mrs B Williams) W R Williams 15-12-5 ... M Turner 7
410 p0434/ FLEXABILITY (D) (J Bosley) J Bosley 12-12-0 ... M Bosley 7
411 WHITE PAPER (J Webber) J Webber 12-12-0 ... Miss T Webber 7
412 p0 CORONETTA (Mrs C Taylor) Mrs C Taylor 10-11-9 ... W Taylor 7

1983: Roadhead 10-11-5 Miss Wilson (7-2) J Gifford 9 ran.

2 Easter Eel, 11-4 Roadhead, 7-2 Further Thought, 8 Loyal Partner, 8 Ballydonagh, 12 Ballet Master, 16 others.

4.15 EMBLEM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£1,998: 2m) (4)

502 211-1f4 ARTIFICE (D) (P Barber) J Thorne 13-11-7 ... P Dever
504 004241 SPINNING SAINT (D) (Miss S Wills) K Bailey 10-10-5 (6 ex) ... P Croucher
505 u13r22 AMBREMONT (C,D) (Mrs J Thomsett) P M Taylor 11-10-5 ... R Arnott
509 324104 BRAHMS AND LISZT (J Parish) P Butler 8-10-5 ... B Powell

1983: Ribolane 8-11-12 J Lovejoy (4-1) T Clay 9 ran.

4-6 Artifice, 7-2 Spinning Saint, 14 Brahms And Liszt, 16 Ambremont.

4.45 ASHFORD NOVICES' HURDLE (Div II: £1,051: 2m) 14)

602 u311u0 SHOW HOUSE (D) (Hillson & Twigden) J Gifford 6-11-10 ... R Rowe
603 0-103 FAR ROCKAWAY (D) (BF) (V Raibin) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-5 ... S Morshead
605 AULD MUNG (P Amey) B Stevens 6-11-0 ... R Muggeridge 7
606 422 BOLD PRINT (B) (Mrs G Houghton) F Walwyn 5-11-0 ... K Mooney
607 003-00 BOSSANOVA BOY (R Henley) P Makin 5-11-0 ... S Smith Eccles
608 0-00800 DOLLYMIXTURE BOY (A Baker (Hyde) Ltd) R Armstrong 5-11-0 ... M Wilson 4
609 0 GILES CROSS (Dr D Chesney) D Chesney 5-11-0 ... D Chesney
610 0720f4 GOLDYKE (D) (S Mason) J Bosley 6-11-0 ... E Waite
611 00p000 HARRYDUF (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 8-11-0 ... Mr G Maundrell
612 0000 LINTON GLEN (R Meddes) J O'Donoghue 5-11-0 ... Mr B O'Leary
613 34 MARINA STAR (O O'Neill) O O'Neill 5-11-0 ... J Suthern
614 400/ MORALITY STONE (Mrs I Beckley) P Mitchell 7-11-0 ... H Davies
615 0 MOUNTVILLE (J Mandervile) F Winter 5-11-0 ... J Francome
617 00-0 SEA-ROSEMARY (Maj R Dening) R Dening 5-10-9 ... R Rowell

1983: Sun Rising 5-11-0 W Smith 2-1 F Walwyn 22 ran.

9-4 Goldyke, 100-30 Bold Print, 4 Far Rockaway, 5 Show House, 7 Mountolive, 12 Morality Stone, 14 Marina Star, 16 others

Kempton selections

By Michael Phillips

2.15 Flying Squad. 2.45 Lean Ar Aghaidh. 3.15 Matin. 3.45 Easter Eel. 4.15 Artifice. 4.45 Bold Print.

Southwell

GOING: good.

2.0 ELSTON CHAPEL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£965: 3m 110yd) (15 runners)

2 4000-11 MISTER DONUT (CD) (K Molloy) M W Dickinson 6-11-7 ... R Earnshaw
5 311140 BALLYRICE (CD) (P Simpson) H Wharton 9-10-12 ... -
6 F3-F02F GREENORE PRIDE (Andrew Baird Tennis) P O'Connor 7-10-10 ... S Jobar
12 31F0F1 SEA SPLASH (C) Mrs M Brennan 8-10-5 (7 ex) ... M Brennan
17 00033F TOM NOEL (Herondata Ltd) M Naughton 9-10-2 ... M Dwyer
18 PP24-01 NEWSTEAD (J Rhodes) J Jefferson 7-10-2 (7 ex) ... A Brown
21 030302 SHAMROCK BRIDGE (M Clarke) R Francis 8-10-0 ... R Crank
25 349020 ALABAMA (B) (F Jackson) W Clay 6-10-0 ... C Mann 4
29 4/34P0B SPRING CLIPPER (J Rayner) T Barron 7-10-0 ... Steve Charlton
32 0-00020 BRIT (T Jarvis) W G Turner 5-10-0 ... R O'Leary
35 0P00-0P BARRYPHILIPS DISCO (I Ender) R Whitaker 7-10-0 ... S MacDonald 7
36 30P-41P BENNELONG (Polymath Shopfitting) P O'Connor 8-10-0 ... -
37 304243 POWDER HORN (J Barr) Mrs J Barr 7-10-0 ... -
38 841P8F FINE LINE (CD) (J Barlow) R Francis 7-10-0 ... -
39 0/PP-000 COURT STAR (Mrs T Watchorn) W Wharton 7-10-0 ... S J O'Neill

1983: Mustapha 5-10-9 P Tuck (4-1) M Camacho 14 ran.

11-8 Mister Donut, 100-30 Sea Splash, 5 Ballyrice, 7 Shamrock Bridge, 8 Newstead, 12 Tom Noel, 16 others.

2.30 NORMAN MOTTE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£628: 2m) (11)

8 0P0000 STAR OF SALFORD (P Landrigan) J Long 6-11-7 ... C Gray 4
10 414P24 GREENACRES JOY (BF) (A Parton) B Preece 4-11-6 ... W Knox 7
10 414P24 WELCIANA (D) (A Albright) R Atkins 5-11-3 ... R Adkins
15 000000 DAVENPORT'S LADY (Mrs G Walford) T Walford 6-11-1 ... Mr T Walford
16 404203 HIGH BARN (E Parker) H Fleming 5-11-0 ... P Blackburn 7
18 00030U WOOL ISLAND (B) (C Fergus) G Lockerbie 4-10-13 ... C Hawkins
21 P00 HARD KINGDOM (W Clay) W Clay 4-10-12 ... C Grant
22 0P-000 WHANGAREI (P McCann) D Wintle 6-10-12 ... R Hyett
24 PP0 LAMBWATH FLYER (H Renwick) A Smith 5-10-12 ... J A Harris
25 000000 DEMON KING (J Thorpe) A Smith 5-10-12 ... -
28 40P0300 RUSSELL UP (D) (Mrs J Williams) R Perkins 5-10-12 ... R Crank

1983: Castleshane Pat 6-10-11 J Suthern (9-2 jt fav) O O'Neill 20 ran.

7-4 Greenacres Joy, 5-2 High Barn, 9-2 Davenport's Lady, 7 Hard Kingdom, 14 Welciana, 16 Wool Island.

3.0 MINSTER HANDICAP CHASE (£1,312: 2m 74yd) (10)

1 PP-P223 SLIEVE BRACKEN (BF) (Ed Weetman) W Clay 8-11-13 ... C Grant
3 1P00-P2 SANTA NOEL (C) (Steadfast Scaffolding) J Leigh 8-11-7 ... M Dwyer
4 F0-3F0F CAPVISTA (M Slattery) J Spearing 9-11-5 ... P Warner
7 42F12-4 HOME GROUND (B) (Jim Ennis Construction) R Peacock 7-10-6 ... -
10 3F-0010 AVERSUN (CD) (Mrs J Hubbard) W Haigh 8-10-1 ... P A Charlton
12 0-020PF PEA-COCK-ADE (T Swiler) C Miller 8-10-0 ... N Madden
16 000002 LLOYD ARDUA (A Blackham) B Cambridge 11-10-0 ... C Mann 4
17 4F0003 MIGHTY IMPRESSIVE (Mrs P Cosgrave) Mrs P Cosgrave 8-10-0 ... McIlfatrick 7
18 0PFP30 ALASKAN PRINCE (B) (B Clarke) G Morgan 9-10-0 ... S J O'Neill
19 00000P TIRERAGH PRINCE (P Clarke) R Perkins 9-10-0 ... R Crank

1983: Snowtown Boy 8-12-0 K Whyte (4-1) J Barry 10 ran.

2 Santa Noel, 11-4 Home Ground, 9-2 Slieve Bracken, 13-2 Aversun, 9 Capvista, 12 Mighty Impressive, 16 others.

3.30 QUEEN'S SCONCE NOVICES' HURDLE (4-y-o: £815: 2m) (16)

1 01 MICK'S STAR (D) (Lord Belper) M W Easterby 11-8 ... A Dickman
2 4021 NUDGE NUDGE (D) (B Birchall) S Mellor 11-8 ... R Lamb
3 0001 KATIE BOURNE (P Finn) E Carter 11-3 ... M Pepper 4
6 ASCENRULLAH (S Bowring) S Bowring 10-12 ... -
10 9 CUTACROSS (B) (Mrs A Atkinson) A Potts 10-12 ... K Adshead 7
11 DUNCORMICK (Mrs J Beasby) Mrs J Beasby 10-12 ... M Brennan
14 43 ERRIGAL (W Kendrick) R Hollinshead 10-12 ... M Dwyer
15 0 GODLORD (Mrs T Chell) T Taylor 10-12 ... Mr C Brooks 7
23 PRINCE HENRY (Wing-Cdr M Eastwood) M Tompkins 10-12 ... S J O'Neill
24 0 PRIVAT LABEL (F H Lee) F Lee 10-12 ... P A Charlton
30 SPRING COTTAGE (G Chatterton) P Felgate 10-12 ... S Charlton
33 TRIBAL SMOKE (I Landless) T Landless 10-12 ... R Dickin
35 4 WEAVERS WAY (A Blackham) B Cambridge 10-12 ... C Mann 4
37 ARRAS LASS (R Stephenson) A Smith 10-7 ... Mr F Dalton 7
38 82132 CHALKIE'S PET (D) (G Wilkins) D Wintle 10-7 ... J Wathen 7
40 MONCLARE LADY (E O'Reilly) P Bevan 10-7 ... T Wall

1983: Sabon Du Loir 10-12 Mr D Browne (10-11 fav) M Dickinson 10 ran.

10-11 Nudge Nudge, 9-2 Mick's Star, 11-2 Errigal, 9 Chalkie's Pet, 12 Prince Henry, 16 Katie Bourne, 20 others.

4.0 SOUTHWELL HUNTERS' CHASE (Amateurs: £1094: 3m 2f) (12)

3 04-22FU FLAMENCO DANCER (D) (G Wragg) R Perkins 10-12-1 ... G Wragg 7
4 FF1211/ MIDNIGHT COURT (Mrs O Jackson) F Winter 13-12-1 ... N Bloom 7
6 21/F1FF- SEALED (J Wilson) J R Wilson 9-12-1 ... J Wilson 7
7 113/14P- THE DRUNKEN DUCK (D) (B Munro-Wilson) B Munro-Wilson ... B Munro-Wilson
10 2223-P3 CAVERTON (C Taylor) C G Taylor 12-11-6 ... -
11 10/P-30P CONDOTTIERE (Mrs C Consett) Mrs C Consett 12-11-6 ... Miss A Beaumont 7
14 2/0P-3 HERNSHAW (R Crawford) R Crawford 11-11-6 ... P Crawford 7
15 MORE LUCK (B) (C Lockey) C Lockey 12-11-6 ... S Richardson 7
16 0/F3020- SCORT (D) (P Bowlby) P Bowlby 14-11-6 ... A Bowlby 7
18 PU32-21 URSER (M Easterby) M W Easterby 10-11-6 ... R J Beggan 4
19 F2P/ FULIGINOUS Miss S Brown) Miss S Brown 11-11-1 ... -
20 20F0U1 HASTY RETREAT (C) (B Rice) B Rice 8-11-1 ... Miss G Rice 7

1983: Honourable Man 10-11-6 D Kinsella (6-11 fav) Mrs P Russell 10 ran.

5-2 Urser 3 The Drunken Duck, 9-2 Flamenco Dancer, 6 Midnight Court, 9 Hasty Retreat, 12 Sealed, 16 More Luck, 20 others.

4.30 NEWARK CASTLE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,578:L 2m 4f) (18)

2 21140-0 BLAKE (D) (M Bray-Cotton) W Clay 7-12-2 ... C Grant
7 003100- NOT A BOTHER (G Pykett) J Twibell 7-11-5 ... J Bryan
8 2-142318 HAVON AIR (D) (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 8-11-4 ... W Hayes 7
11 010000 FEU ROUGE (C Fergus) G Lockerbie 5-10-11 ... C Hawkins
13 001133- SOMETHING SPECIAL (D) (Mrs W Mills) P Bevan 7-10-10 ... T Wall
16 0-00P00 HARDY RANCH (W Brett) O Brennan 5-10-7 ... M Brennan
18 01F30P DO OR DIE (B) (Mrs L O'Neill) O O'Neill 7-10-5 ... J Suthern
19 043F-PF SPEED OF LIGHT (Mrs P Bowlby) P T Bowlby 9-10-5 ... M Bowlby 7
22 013030 CROWCOPPER (CD) (P Crowe Ltd) B Preece 5-10-3 ... R Stronge 4
23 10-11040 ITS-A-TWIST (Mrs V Craggs) W Wharton 5-10-2 ... S J O'Neill
25 31320/0 DOROTHY KATE (CD) (Mrs J Hancock) J Twibell 7-10-0 ... Steve Charlton
27 04-4340 PAPERACER (A Parton) A Preece 5-10-0 ... W Knox 7
30 041330 LITTLE GINGER (J Abbey) B McMahon 5-10-0 ... -
35 P30000/ MENDELITA (J Pears) R Stubbs 8-10-0 ... -
39 003P00 HANSELS MUSIC (Halow Bros) P O'Connor 6-10-0 ... S McDonald 7
41 010/00-3 VELVET BOY (CD) H Davenport) Mrs W Sykes 10-10-0 ... -
43 000F0 TURNTABLE (B) (Lady Herries) Lady Herries 8-10-0 ... M Kinane
44 00000P JYMARIO (B) (K Bell) D Wintle 6-10-0 ... R Hyett

1983: Sandmoor Court 5-10-0 M Harrington (14-1) H Westbrook 18 ran.

7-2 Havon Air, 4 Crowecopper, 5 Blake, 7 Something Special, 8 Do Or Die, Paperacer, 10 Its A Twist, 12 Little Ginger, 16 others.

Southwell selections

By Michael Phillips

2.0 Mister Donut. 2.30 Greenacares Joy. 3.0 Home Ground. 3.30 Nudge Nudge. 4.0 Urser. 4.30 Velvet Boy.

Wincanton results

Going: good to soft

2.0 FONTHILL CHASE (handicap: £1,562: 2m)
CLONCORMICK b g by Master Owen – Clonroche (M Bradstock) 9-10-3 ... Mr M Bradstock (9-2) 1
Jubilee Medal ... J Francome (11-4) 2
Fire Drill ... P Richards (2-1 fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £6.70. Places: £2.50, £1.80. DF: £10.60. CSF: £15.65. F Walwyn at Lambourn. ½l, 5l. North Yard (16-1) 4th. 6 ran. Nr: Spartan Major.

2.30 KINGWELL PATTERN HURDLE (£6,059: 2m)
DESERT ORCHID gr g by Grey Mirage – Flower Child (R Burridge) 5-11-2 ... C Brown (2-1 fav) 1
Stans Pride ... R Crank (3-1) 2
Very Promising ... B de Haan (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.40. Places: £1.40, £1.20, £2.20. DF: £4.90. CSF: £7.92. D Elsworth at Whitsbury. 4l, 12l. Janus (8-1) 4th. 8 ran.

3.0 JIM FORD CUP CHASE (£3,426: 3m 1f)
BURROUGH HILL LAD b g by Richboy – Green Monkey (R Riley) 8-11-11 ... J Francome (4-11 fav) 1
Button Boy ... M Ayliffe (150-1) 2
Giddycan ... P Richards (40-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.20. DF: £6.90. CSF: £11.04 Mrs J Pitman at Lambourn Dist, 3l. 4 ran. Only 3 finished.

3.30 MERE HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o maidens £698: 2m) PERLION b g by Sassafras – Pallakis (Mrs A Garrett) 10-10 ... J Francome (9-4 fav) 1
Our White Hart ... Mr J White (11-4) 2
Nestor ... P Scudamore (20-1) 3
TOTE. Win. £3.50. Places. £1.20, £1.80. £4.40. DF £4.50 CSF. £11.16. J King at Swindon. 25l, nk. Fine Prospect (10-1) 4th. 20 ran.

4.00 FAIRYLAND CHASE (handicap: £1,914: 2m 5f
OYSTER POND br g by Martinmas – Masai Princess (K M Clarke) 7-10-12 ... G McCourt (4-1) 1
Leander Blue ... P Scudamore (9-2) 2
Raidis ... J Burke (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £5.10. Places: £1.90, £1.50, £1.80. DF: £13.50. CSF: £21.36. M McCourt at Wantage Lord Leighton (2-1 fav) 4th 9 ran.

4.30 MERE MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o. £500 added £702: 2m)
IL PONTEVECCHIO b c by Tumble Wind – Nethersde (Mrs J M Smith) 10-10 ... P Scudamore (5-1) 1
End Of The Road ... S Smith Eccles (12-1) 2
Everseal ... J Francome (5-4 fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £7.30. Places. £2.70, £2.60, £1.20. DF: £41.30. CSF: £58.58. D Murray-Smith at Marlborough. 6l, 1l. King Jo (11-2) 4th. 23 ran

Folkestone

Going: soft

1.45 NORTH FORELAND HURDLE (novices: £580: 2m 5f)
CAMP DUNPHY br g by Reformed Character – Geordie Miss (R O'Byrne) 6-11-4 R Rowe (4-1) 1
Rebeg ... H Davies (5-2 fav) 2
On The Warpath ... P Double (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £5.60. Places: £2.10, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £9.60. CSF: £13.50. J Gifford at Findon. 1½l, 10l. Army Council (10-1) 4th. 18 ran.

2.15 GOODWINS CHASE (handicap: £1,245: 2m 2f)
LEFT BANK b g by Cavan – Ask Gloria (G Beccle) 6-11-3 ... H Davies (100-30 fav) 1
Buck and Wing ... M Perrett (4-1) 2
Lumparlte ... A Madgwick (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.50 Places: £1.70, £1.80, £3.10 DF: £6.20 CSF: £16.17 Tricast: £329.60 D Morley at Bury St Edmunds. 8l, 8l. Beyham Sir Vardon (9-2) 4th. 10 ran.

2.45 VALENTINE GORTON HURDLE (4-y-o: £1,805 2m 110yd)
OULA OWL b c by Tachypous – Oula-Ka Fu-Fu (Mrs C Clatworthy) 10-7 . R Rowe (4-1) 1
Shenton Way ... R Hyett (4-7 fav) 2
Dodgy Future ... M Perrett (7-2) 3
TOTE. Win £3.10. DF £2.40. CSF: £6.39. J Gifford at Findon. hd, dist. Yukon Lad (200-1) 4th. 4 ran. NR. Horsford Henry.

3.15 METROPOLE NATIONAL TRIAL CHASE £3,765: 3m 7f
DROPS O'BRANDY b g by Hot Brandy – Ravishing (Mrs C Fairbairn) 9-10-10 ... P Warner (9-2) 1
Bujoji ... Mrs N Ledger (100-30 fav) 2
Colonel Christy ... M Hammond (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £7.10. Places: £1.90, £1.40, £2.40. DF: £11.20. CSF: £18.76. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye. 3l 7l. Peter Scot (13-2) 4th. 8 ran.

3.45 MANSTON NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE £1,021: 3m 2f
DARGAI b g by Menelik-Strange Delight (Maj J Urquhart) 8-11-10 ... A Webber (3-1) 1
Black Magic ... H Davies (9-4 fav) 2
Browndodd Lad ... V McKevitt (3-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.50, £1.50, £1.20. DF: £3.60. CSF: £9.56 Tricast: £18.84. R Armytage at East Ilsley. 1l 10l. On Trust (50-1) 4th. 10 ran.

4.15 BOBBIE SHAW HANDICAP HURDLE (Amateurs: £1,853: 2m 5f
ANEX b g by Exbury-Hantana (T Hayward) 7-10-10 ... Mr A J Wilson (8-11 fav) 1
Navajo Brave ... Mr T Thomson Jones (11-2) 2
Royalty Miss ... Mr T Grantham (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.50. Places: £1.00, £1.20, £1.50. DF: £4.20. CSF: £5.61. Tricast: £30.06. Mrs N Smith at Eastergate. 12l 6l. Placepot: £7.05. Rostra (6-1) 4th. 10 ran.

ATHLETICS: BRITISH SUCCESS IN NEW ARENAS

Kelvin Hall to get indoor track

By Pat Butcher

Kelvin Hall in Glasgow, a venue for many memorable world championship boxing matches, will soon be resounding to the swish of athletes running around an indoor track. A £2½m plan to convert the hall into an international class indoor athletics arena, with a permanent track, was approved yesterday by Glasgow City Council.

There will be seating for 5,000 spectators, an appreciable improvement on RAF Cosford in the West Midlands, which is still the only indoor athletics arena in Britain. The refurbished arena should be fully operational by the end of 1986, but it is hoped that some events could be held there during the preceding winter. This is when Kelvin Hall was originally to have become redundant, due to the opening of the new Scottish Exhibition Centre at Queen's Dock, a mile away.

The earlier use would be helpful to Scottish athletes preparing for the 1986 Commonwealth Games, to be held in Edinburgh, whose own District Council approved plans last month for the new Games cycling arena, which will include an athletics track, to be built in Saughton Park, Edinburgh.

So, from being an indoor athletics wasteland, Scotland will get two new arenas in the next two years. The Scottish Sports Council will provide up to £500,000 for the Kelvin Hall project, and negotiations are underway for an EEC grant.

But if the Commonwealth Games, and, perhaps, a bit of inter-city rivalry, are providing the initial impetus for the Scottish arenas, the success of British athletics generally, despite the paucity of winter training facilities, is moving local councils elsewhere to build or plan indoor athletics facilities.

Birmingham City Council has already cleared the ground next to their Alexandra Stadium for the building of an indoor arena, while Slough Borough Council are close to a decision on a similar project. There are also high hopes for the London Dockland scheme. All of which should give Britain enough facilities to bid for the European Indoor Games, which the athletic authorities have, shamefully, been incapable of doing thus far.

Top Czech busy

Prague (AFP) – Jarmila Kratochvilova, Czecholslovakis's outstanding double world champion will run in three events at the European Indoor athletics championships in Sweden early next month.

The championships are to be held in Gothenburg on March 3 and 4 and Kratochvilova, 400 and 800 metres gold medallist at the world championships in Helsinki is down to compete in those two events for which she also holds the world records, and the 200 metres.

Pub scheme smooths the way for Mafe

Adeoye Mafe, the promising young British sprinter, is among athletes who will benefit from a new scheme announced yesteray to fund coaches who want to accompany competitors at the Olympics and events leading up to it (Pat Butcher writes).

In collaboration with the International Athletes' Club, the Host Group are organizing promotions in their pubs around the country from which they hope to raise £50,000 to support Britain's Olympic effort.

Provision is already being made by the British Amateur Athletic Board and the British Olympic Association for some individual coaches to join official team coaches at Los Angeles in August, but this scheme will insure against mistakes. Mafe's coach, Ken Seddington, will now be able to join him for the European indoor championships in Gothenburg next month.

The coach-athlete relationship is a difficult one to plumb, but what is certain is that the moral and technical support that only a personal coach can provide properly at competitions is crucial in the early days. Mafe is only 17, and two more outstanding juniors, the high jumpers Geoff Parsons and Debbie Marti, will also receive funding. So will the coaches of Fatima Whitbread, Peter Elliott, Shirley Strong, Kathy Cook and Tessa Sanderson.

TENNIS: BRITAIN'S DAVIS CUP HOPES REMAIN HIGH

Odd couple should have measure of Italians

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

The only safe assumption about the Davis Cup tie between Britain and Italy, to be played at Telford from today until Sunday, is that Britain's proposed doubles pair of Colin Dowdeswell and John Lloyd have more talent for this form of the game than any partnership that Italy can muster. It does not follow that Britain will win the doubles: we have yet to find out whether Dowdeswell and Lloyd add up to the sum of their parts. But this is one match Britain should win.

The four singles could go either way. Today Dowdeswell plays Gianni Ocleppo (unusual among Italians because he plays his best tennis indoors) while Lloyd tackles the by no means insuperable task – indoors, anyway – of beating Corrado Barazzutti for the first time in five meetings. In tomorrow's doubles the Italian pair will probably be Ocleppo and Claudio Panatta. Sunday's concluding matches will be Lloyd v Ocleppo and Dowdeswell v Barazzutti.

What a strange assortment of players that is. Christopher Mottram, who has picked up some kind of throat virus that caused swollen glands, is missing from the British line-up after a string of 15 consecutive ties since June, 1978. Since his Davis Cup debut in 1975, Mottram has won 27 of his 35 Davis Cup singles and four of his six doubles. In 26 "live" singles he has been beaten only by Manuel Orantes, John McEnroe, Ilie Nastase, Guillermo Vilas and Paul McNamee.

Adriano Panatta, having played a round total of 100 Davis Cup singles and doubles, has withdrawn from serious competition and, for the first time, will be Italy's captain. In some ways, this is a waste, because he is only two years older than the United States champion, Jimmy Connors, and has a wealth of tennis left in him if only he had the mind to exert himself. Instead, he has become captain of a team which includes his younger brother.

The odd features of this tie are not restricted to Mottram and the Italian captain. Dowdeswell will be playing his first Davis Cup tie since he turned out (successfully) for Rhodesia against Switzerland in 1976.

Paul Hutchins, Britain's captain, is probably more relieved than he would admit. Mottram's left knee has been suspect and, in any case, he no longer competes in grand prix tournaments. Had he played at Telford, the risk would have been high on both counts. So Hutchins had no choice but to pick Dowdeswell, even though he seems to have lost the knack of winning and is new to this sort of challenge anyway, and Lloyd, a "short-burst" player who may or may not have a burst in the next three days.

This will be the fifth time Britain have played Italy in nine years, winning only once, at Brighton in 1981. Both teams have changed a lot since then. Britain, who have been assisted in practice by a London-based Swede, Henrik Sundstrom, should win this time, on a court which has accomodation for 2,462 spectators.

Lloyd comes good

Chris Lloyd, the second seed, got off to a slow start before beating Carling Bassett 2-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the second round of the Women's National Indoor Championships in East Hanover, New Jersey. She will meet the No. 6 seed, Sylvia Hanika, in the quarter-finals in which Pam Casale, having defeated Tracey Austin 7-5, 6-3, will face Martina Navratilova, the favourite.

Brown fails to make a foursome

By Lewine Mair

With Jeremy Bates, Stuart Bale and Richard Lewis safely in the 16-strong field for next week's Masters at Bramhall, Nick Brown needed to defeat Lewis in the Law Tennis Association's satellite event at Coventry yesterday to give Britain a fourth representative.

Brown served and volleyed admirably to take the first set 6-2 but, as Lewis began to make a better job of returning service, he began to falter.

In the end, he lost 2-6, 6-4 6-3. It was by no means a bad preformance but, sadly, the melancholy way in which he padded around between times, coupled with the fact that he won only one point over the last two games, left people with the impression that he could have tried harder.

In this morning's semi-final, Lewis meets Stuart Bale, the 20-year-old Midlesex player who had a commendable win yesterday over Ollie Rahnasto, aged 18, of Finland.

Before he went on, Bale made no secret of the fact that he saw this as his most important match of the circuit. Rahnasto, too, was patently on edge.

He had mentioned to his coach that he knew he could not afford to give Bale any kind of lift but, straight away, he made the mistake of losing his service.

Bale took full advantage of the situation winning the first set 6-4 and taking the second for the loss of only six points.

Some describe Bale's habit of looking round between points as a harmless idiosyncrasy. However, it was interesting to note yesterday that in winning the first set his eyes off the court. He was back to his old ways for the last two games, but, luckily for him, Rahnasto was by then playing too badly to take advantage of this possible crack in concentration.

THIRD ROUND: G Jarck (USA) bt B Levine (SA) 6-3, 7-6; G Layendecker (US) bt S Perkiss (Isr) 6-4, 6-4; R Lewis (GB) bt N Brown (GB) 2-6, 6-4, 6-3; S Bale (GB) bt O Rahnasto (Fin) 6-4, 6-0.

Durie's defence

Jo Durie, Britain's No 1 and currently the world No 6, will defend her women's singles title in this year's £83,000 National Championships, sponsored by Refuge Assurance, which end with finals in October. Colin Dowdeswell, Britain's top man, has also entered.

Australia omit Cash

Pat Cash, who helped Australia win the Davis Cup in December, has been omitted from the team for the first round tie against Yugoslavia which started in Perth today. Paul McNamee and John Fitzgerald will defend the cup in the singles and the proven combination of McNamee and Mark Edmonson will contest the doubles.

John McEnroe, the world's No.1 player, has been drawn to meet the veteran, Ilie Nastase on the first day of the Romanian v United States match in Bucharest. The two men with a reputation for temperamental behaviour on court will meet in the second singles. The opening match will be between Jimmy Connors, making a rare appearance in Davis Cup tennis, and Florin Segarceanu.

Czechoslovakia will be without Ivan Lendl, the world's No.2, when they meet Denmark in Hradec Kolore near Prague. Lendl was suspended from the Davis Cup team last July after playing an exhibition match in South Africa. He has asked to be reinstated but no decision has yet been taken by the Czechoslovak Tennis Association.

The Indian captain, Vijay Amritraj, will miss the tie against France in Delhi becaue of a shoulder injury.

CRICKET: TIME IS RIPE TO CHANGE A WINNING TEAM



Holding: fatigued

Bridgetown, Barbados (AP)–Two key West Indies players will not be available for the first of four one-day internationals against Australia at Albion, Guyana, next Wesnesday.

Clive Lloyd, the captain, is out because of injuries sustained during the recent tour of Australia, but will return for the first Test match of the series which starts in Georgetown on March 2.

Michael Holding, the fast bowler, has been omitted from the parties for both the one day international and first Test match at his own request. Holding said in Kingston, Jamaica, that he wanted time to rest a troublesome left Knee. Lloyd, will be replaced as captain for the one-day international by Vivian Richards.

PARTY: I V A Richards (captain), G Greenidge, D L Haynes, R B Richardson, H A Gomes, A L Logie, PJ Dujon, E A Baptiste, R A Harper, W Daniel, J Garner, M Marshall, W Davis.

England's forgotten four await selectors' call

From Derek Hodgson, Auckland

Early this afternoon in Auckland the tour selectors (A. C. Smith, Gifford, Willis and Gower) will experience one of the more satisfying moments of their two months in New Zealand: a debate on whether to change a team that has won, by the substantial margins of 54 runs and six wickets, the first two one-day international matches, for the third and last, at Eden Park, Auckland, tomorrow.

There is a compelling argument for introducing the four players who have been left out so far, Tavare, Fowler, Cook and Dilley. The first Test against Pakistan in Karachi begins in a week and it is important that these four play some competitive cricket in order to qualify for Test match selection.

At a distance, and without having seen the square in Karachi, my own preference for the Test team would read: Smith (now firmly established), Fowler, Tavaré, Gower, Randall, Botham, Marks, Taylor, Foster, Cook and Willis, omitting Lamb, Gatting, Cowans and Dilley.

Such a selection is admittedly nostalgic, restoring Tavaré and Gower to their former places in the order and fielding a balanced attack of three seam bowlers and two spinners. The selectors do not think this way: they believe Tavaré is now an opener, Gower a No 3; they feel they need the pace of either Cowans or Dilley and as for two spinners, well, that is going back to the days when the Earl of Stockton was Prime Minister.

Yet at least one change will have to be made among the current winners because Gower's form is such that he can hardly be chosen to open in a Test match as he is doing in the one-day games.

Chief opposition to any changes in tomorrow's team will come from Willis, who announced after Wednesday's win: "I want to play the team most likely to win because a team that has just won a three-match series 3-0 will start an arduous month in Pakistan in very good spirits." He admitted that other selectors wanted one or more of the forgotten four to play and it will be interesting to see whether he gets his own way. Willis is clearly no dictator at selection meetings.

The success of Marks on Wednesday confirmed the fallibility to spin shown by the New Zealanders in England last summer and until Wednesday one had the feeling that this was one weapon that England had allowed to rust on the shelf.

The Somerset player's success has prompted the New Zealanders to recall their left-arm spinner, Boock from Otago, while poor Edgar, in wretched form, is displaced by the hard-hitting Auckland opening batsman, Webb.

England meanwhile have arranged a morning practice at Eden Park. Despite New Zealand's having lost the series, every seat has been sold so there should be a 27,000 crowd to create an exciting atmosphere for the last match of what has been a highly interesting, if not wholly successful, tour.

● The Test and County Cricket Board have contacted the Foreign Office and the Pakistan cricket board over reports that students are threatening to disrupt England's matches on the Pakistan stage of their tour.

Wessels gets a rest

Georgetown (Reuter) – Kepler Wessels, who scored 126 and 86 in the Australians' opening match against the Leeward Islands, is rested for the game with Guyana which starts today.

Steve Smith will open the Australian innings with Wayne Phillips, who looked in poor form in the first match. Border or Hookes may also rest. Guyana will be without Lloyd, their captain.

GUYANA (from): Timur Mohamed (captain), A A Lyght, S Lambert, A Jackman, R Seerams, M A Harper, W H F White, D I Kallicharran, M R Pydanna, C Butts, R F Joseph, G E Charles.

AUSTRALIANS (from): K J Hughes (captain), W B Phillips, S B Smith, M Ritchie, A R Border, D W Hookes, R D Wooley, I G Hogan, G R J Matthews, C G Rackemann, G F Lawson, J N Maguire, T M Alderman, R M Hogg.

Ryan's Son, now 16, could find Los Angeles to his liking

A legendary partnership that could scale Olympic heights

"They say it is not the winning but the taking part that counts but, if I go to the Games, I want to win." John Whitaker makes no bones about the Olympic ideal. At 28 he is the most experienced rider on Britain's Olympic showjumping shortlist and, because he hopes to turn professional at the end of the year, this will be his last attempt to gain an Olympic medal, "the greatest thing a rider can do."

At the moment he and his younger brother, Michael, are in the middle of a £60,000 sponsorship with Next Collections. The contract is for a year and the package has been put together by the British Equestrian Federation so that is does not endanger the brothers' amateur status. Such are the anomalies of Olympic eligibility that, in completing his most successful year Whitaker not only became the European individual silver medal winner but also finished top of the international money winners' table as well as of the combined national and international tables. Yesterday, in recognition of his outstanding year, he received the Martini Award for showjumping which is presented annually to the year's top personality in equestrian sports.

Strangely, even taking part at the Olympics has eluded Whitaker so far. He has twice before been shortlisted, but in 1976 he was dropped when Ryan's Son refused at the final trial, and in 1980 there was the boycott of the Moscow Olympics. "Everything was right for that year (1980). We were all set and Ryan was just the right age". Now it is touch and go.

Ryan's Son is 16 and, although the legendary partnership shows no sign of ending, Whitaker is undecided as to whether Ryan's Son should be made available for the Olympics. "He has been such a good horse I don't want to finish him in one go". The fears are understandable. The last three Olympic courses have been exceptionally big – and so was that for the world championships at Dublin in 1982 – and big tracks take their toll on horses.

The Los Angeles course is thought to be tricky rather than big and that, as Ronnie Massarella, the British *chef d'equipe*, pointed out, means that "Of all the possible Olympic horses Ryan's Son could be the one most suited technically to the course".

He is a veteran of more than 30 Nations Cup events and the most consistent horse to have appeared – and stayed – on the international scene in the last decade. He is also the most popular. His broad white blaze, kindly eye and indomitable spirit have made him the darling of the showjumping world. The admiration is mutual. Ryan's Son's celebrated kick-back after jumping the last fence is his acknowledgement to the crowds he loves. "He's showing off really" Whitaker says. "When the crowd claps he knows he's done well and gives a buck". Whitaker's modesty obscures an essential ingredient in the horse's success. Massarella restores the perspective. "Ryan's Son is one of the best the world's ever produced, but then he's ridden so well..... John is the most level-headed chap for the (Olympic) job. He has the flair, the magic, the guts, the knowledge and all the capabilities in the world".

It is Whitaker's quiet, stylish riding, allied with a ruthless determination to succeed, that makes him an invaluable member of any team. He weighs only 10 stone and has the lightest of hands. To watch him in the ring is to see showjumping at its gentlest but most effective.

The eldest of four brothers he was brought up on a 150-acre farm at Outland near Huddersfield. He started at five on the family's old milk pony. Early lessons came from his mother, then the Rockwood Harriers Pony Club. The only other formal instruction he has received was on a three-day course with Dick Stillwell, the British Show Jumping Association's top instructor.

Whitaker inherits the will to win from his mother, Enid. "She is the perfectionist. Mrs Whitaker had started a small riding school to help make the ponies pay their way and gradually the young Whitaker got more rides as local people, admiring his skill, asked if he would ride for them. But there were no thoughts of making riding his career.

Whitaker's father, Donald, decided to buy a promising showjumper, Singing Wind, which reached the Foxhunter final at Wembley in his first season, the Young Riders' in his second and by the third had qualified for most of the top shows. The foundations of Whitaker's career were laid.

Ryan's Son next appeared on the scene. Donald Whitaker saw and admired him at local shows when ridden by Sandra Wright, his then owner. He and Donald Oates, from whom they had bought Singing Wind, resolved to buy Ryan's Son. In fact Oates bought him for around £800, rode him at a couple of shows, then was unavailable and asked Whitaker to. "It was like clockwork; everything worked straight away". Donald Whitaker and Oates renegotiated before John's future father-in-law, Malcolm Barr stepped in and secure the horse for John. For £2,000 a legend began.



Olympic hopefuls: John Whitaker on Ryan's Son

In their first season (1973) Whitaker started riding Ryan's Son around June. By October he was Grade B. The following year he quickly climbed to Grade A. The turning point was the Great Yorkshire Show. Whitaker had entered Singing Wind and Ryan's Son. He won the first class with Ryan's Son, beating all the top names, and the next class he won with Singing Wind.

His arrival on the international stage was confirmed when the following year (1975) he joined the British team to Ostend, Rotterdam and Poland. In 1976 he and Ryan's Son were shortlisted for the Olympics and did so well at the trial at Cardiff that Whitaker was led to believe that he was a definite starter for Montreal. Undecided about the rest of the team the selectors called a final trial at Hickstead. Ryan's Son was unprepared and had not had the necessary outings before a big competitions. He was "wild and mad" that day and stopped several times. "He's never stopped like that before; he just switched off". Whitaker lost his place in the team.

There have been other disappointments, notably last summer when he was left out of the team for the European Championships, to which Ryan's Son's schedule that year had been specifically directed. The chosen team was Harvey Smith, David Broome, Nick Skelton and Malcolm Pyrah. General Sir Cecil Blacker, chairman of the selection committee, admits that it had been an extremely difficult decision to decide on the four. "We discussed it for hours and in the end we went for what we knew was a winning combination" (the four had just returned from a glorious victory in the Nations Cup in Paris).

Barely two weeks after the team was announced Whitaker was called upon after all. His determination to succeed was never greater. He and Ryan's Son finished with the individual silver medal as well as helping the team to silver. The following month he won an even greater reward, the £14,000 first prize in the British Jumping Derby.

Whitaker's victories are not all due to Ryan's Son. Last year he enjoyed success with a variety of Grade A horses including Blue Moon, Charlie's Angel and Novilheiro, an Andalusian stallion on whom he won £8,316.

He has high hopes of a South-African bred horse which has recently joined the yard. Before that, however, higher hopes still may rest upon another – no novice but a woolly-looking horse in a New Zealand rug which I saw grazing in a small walled field in beside the Whitaker's Yorkshire farmhouse. The broad white blaze revealed his identity. Ryan's Son, enjoying a well-deserved rest from the rigours of the circuit, carried on munching the grass as we arrroached blissfully unaware of his master's current dilemma – a dilemma which at present is merely taking part.

Jenny MacArthur

Scholarship for Miss Schwerd

Polly Schwerd, aged 20, from Devon has won the Martini scholarship, an annual award to help promising young riders, after her outstanding year with Dylan II. The pair finished eighth at Badminton and crowned this by taking the team gold and individual bronze medals at the European Young Riders championships in September. Dylan II is only just 15 hands high and was originally bought for Miss Schwerd to take to Pony Club events.

The Martini Awards are decided annually by the vote of readers of *Horse and Rider, Pony* and the Topic group of regional magazines. Jilly Cooper, who is writing a novel based on the horse world, presented riders with their awards.

WINNERS: Showjumping: John Whitaker. Horse trials: Lucinda Green. Dressage: Jennie Loriston-Clarke. Showing: Vin Toulson. Driving: Christine Dick. Point to Point: Jenny Pidgeon. Topic trophy for the Midlands and North: Christopher Bartle.

HOCKEY

Chance for Slough to regain title

By Sydney Friskin

There will be a parade of England's silver medal winning team from the recent European indoor championship at Crystal Palace today, when the final stages of the national club championship are to be played. Richard Clarke, who scored 18 goals for England in the European event at Edinburgh, will not be seen in action today, because his club, Tulse Hill, last year's winner's were eliminated from the qualifying round.

Still, there should be some quality in Slough's attempt to regain the title they lost last year to Tulse Hill, and there is the possibility of a clash in the final with East Grinstead, who knocked them out of the outdoor championship last Sunday.

There are others such as South Nottingham and Firebrands who may also come through. South Nottingham, winners of the Indoor Hockey News Tournament on New Year's Day, have a prolific scorer, Nick Clark, who has been selected for England's under-21 side to play against Wales on March 6 at Worcester.

QUARTER-FINALS: Alderley Edge v Slough (5.30); St Albans v Pickwick (6.07); East Grinstead v Firebrands (6.44); Blackheath v South Nottingham (7.21). Semi-finals and final to follow in rotation.

Australians to tour England

By Joyce Whitehead

As the four home international B teams prepare for their tournament at Old Trafford today and tomorrow, Australia have announced their plans for their visit to England in the summer. They will tour between July 17 to 23, with matches against England on July 21 and 22.

Scotland have nine newcomers in their squad of 16, which is captained by Margery Coutts. Marie Crawford captains Ireland B, who have five players from Ulster, four from Leinster, and five from Munster.

Wales have two players with World Cup experience – Jackie Willimas, and with 113 full caps, and 21 Great Britain caps, who leads the side.

England also include two full internationals, Karen Lobb, the captain, and Margaret Souyave, the former England captain, with 76 caps. There are four new faces: Angela Cannell, Caroline Rule, Denise Parker and Katherine Gurr. Carol Dudley is having a baby, and her place will be taken by Mary Cheetham.

MOTOR RACING

Tyrrell backs Brundle and all-British team

By John Blunsden

Ken Tyrrell, under whose guidance Jackie Stewart won 25 of his record number of 27 Grands Prix and all three of his world championships, has spoken out strongly about the loss of opportunity for British driving talent through lack of home-bred sponsorship.

Resisting overtures from heavily financed Italian drivers and despite the absence of a major sponsor, he has signed on a three-year contract one of Britain's brightest prospects, Martin Brundle, aged 24 from King's Lynn, who will make his Grand Prix debut in Brazil on March 25.

"I want to run an all-British team", Mr Tyrrell told me yesterday. "But I may have to put an Italian in the second car if I cannot find the backing in this country. It's a ludicrous situation with drivers like John Watson and Jonathan Palmer still without Formula One drives."

The deadline for niminating drivers is Tuesday but Mr Tyrrell is hoping to stretch the date until March 12, when FISA will confirm the full racing calendar. His operating budget of £1.5m for two cars and a development programme is about a third of that of the top turbo-powered teams. The Tyrrell will run with the less expensive three-litre Ford Cosworth DFY engine, for which a significant power increase was found on the test bed earlier this week.

"We will still be uncompetitive in practice – we shall probably qualify about sixteenth out of 26 – but it will be a different matter in the race. We shall be about 200 lb lighter than the turbos on the start line, so we will be using softer tyres and we ought to be able to outbrake them as well. At Brands Hatch, Zolder, Montreal, Detroit, Dallas, Rio and perhaps Fuengirola we should be in particularly good shape."

Tyrrell's choice of Brundle rather than Palmer was a difficult one.



Brundle the debutant

"They are both outstanding and, of course, Palmer has nothing to prove – his 1983 formula Two championship says it all." But Brundle's Tyrrell tests, first at Silverstone, when he lapped the car one and a half seconds quicker than it had ever gone before, then in Rio, where he was timed quicker than every other driver through one particularly revealing corner, clearly made a big impression all round.

"Martin Brundle is no flash in the pan", Mr Tyrrell, who if necessary will finance his new driver's first season out of his own pocket, said. "Ideally, I would like to run them both but I must have backing to do that." So far, the Tyrrell team's only support is coming from Goodyear, Champion and Courtaulds, with tyres, plugs and carbon-fibre technology respectively.

Mr Tyrrell, one of the shrewdest judges of the racing scene, has also made a prediction for this year's world championship. "I think it will be Piquet again because I think his BMW four-cylinder engine will probe to be the most fuel-efficient." But he says that the Williams team may prove to be the dark horse, specially at Rio.

CYCLING

Way open for third British team

By John Wilcockson

The withdrawal of Hongkong from the Sealink International race has opened the way for a third team of British professionals to take part in the five-day race starting on April 9.

It seems that the three teams, officially representing Britain, England and the Professional Cycling Association, will be based on the three largest sponsored squads: Raleigh-Weinman, Falcon and a new team to be announced next week.

Each team will be increased to six riders by the inclusion of individually sponsored men such as Tony Doyle, whose continued backing by the RMC Group was confirmed earlier this week. Doyle was second in the 1983 Sealink race behind Bert Wekema, of The Netherlands, who is now a professional with the Shimano-)Raleigh team on the Continent.

Competing against the three professional teams in April will be seven amateur formations: Denmark, England, Great Britain, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway and Poland. It is understood that Czechoslovakia are hoping to take part.

IN BRIEF

FOOTBALL: Courage, the brewers, have taken over sponsorship of the Football League indoor six-a-side tournament, in conjuntion with Birmingham City Council. It will be played at the National Exhibition Centre on March 27 and 28, with Arsenal, Aston Villa, Ipswich Town, Nottingham Forest, Southampton, Watford and West Bromwich Albion, expected to challenge for the £45,000 prize money.

MOTOR RACING: A civil rights group is protesting against the inclusion of a South African team in this weekend's Miami Grand Prix, calling it an insult to local blacks. The group is asking Miami citizens to call the race promotor, Ralph Sanchez and city officials, to complain about the entry of Graham Duxbury and Sarel Vandermerne.

VOLLEYBALL: The women's international between the United States and Japan in London on May 25, which could be a rehearsal for the Olympic Games final, will be shown on BBC tv's *Grandstand* the following day in a bid to help popularize the sport in this country.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-offs 7.30 unless stated

Fourth division

Stockport v Chester

Tranmere v Peterborough.

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Featherstone Rovers v Leigh.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bracknell Pirate v Crystal Palace.

HOCKEY

INDOOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Finals (at Crystal Palace, 5.30).

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL B TEAM TOURNAMENT (at Old Trafford, Manchester): Wales v Scotland (2.30); England v Ireland (3.0).

OTHER SPORTS

BADMINTON: Essex championships (Redbridge SC, Barkingside, 5.15).
CROSS COUNTRY: Inter-Services championships (HMS Dryd, Portsmouth, 2.30).
TENNIS: Thurlestons Indoor Challenge (Thurleston Tennis Centre, Ipswich, 5.0).
SNOOKER: Tolly Cobbold Classic (Corn Exchange, Ipswich, 1.0 and 7.0).

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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Peter Waymark

End of the road for the Morris marque

Publicity has recently been given to BL's decision to drop the Triumph name from its range when a new version of the Acclaim is launched later in the year. What seems to have escaped attention is the imminent demise of an even more famous British car marque.

In April BL unveils its much-needed medium saloon, code-named LM11 but expected to be called the Austin Montego, and that will mean the end of the only model still bearing the name of one of the great British motor industry pioneers, William Morris, Lord Nuffield.

When the Morris Ital (fomerly the Marina) ceases production to make way for the Montego, it will be the end of an era that started nearly 72 years ago when the young Morris introduced his first model, called the Oxford after the city where he grew up, at the London Motor Show.



Peugeot 205 GR: Setting big car standards

The passing of Morris may not be as widely mourned as that of Triumph for it is a long time since the marque had a separate identity. But its disappearance should not be allowed to go by without a few words on the significance of Morris in the development of the British car industry.

A self-made man with no formal training as an engineer or in finacne, William Morris built his fortune partly on shrewd salesmanship, but also on the realization that it could be cheaper to buy in components, that to make them himself, a practice that has become motor industry orthodoxy. For his engines he went as far as Detroit, where he got them for £18 instead of £50 in Britain.

After the First World War he cut dramatically the prices of his cars, calculating that he would more than compensate for the lost revenue by increasing sales. The move was brilliantly successful: he sold 3,000 cars in 1921 and 55,000 in 1925. From then until the outbreak of the Second World War, Morris was the largest British manufacturer.

In the 1920s Morris was strong enough to contemplate taking over his arch-rival, Austin, and it is fascinating to speculate on how different the course of the British motor industry might have been if that plan had gone ahead. When the two companies did get together, in 1951, it was on very different terms.

By then Morris's impetus had gone. He was still trying to run the company himself but long absences overseas meant that he had increasingly to delegate; and he was beginning to lose his flair for reading the market, severely underestimating the potential of the Minor, which some observers feel could have been another Volkswagen Beetle.

When Austin suggested a merger, Morris reluctantly agreed. But the formation of the British Motor Corporation (BMC) was in reality the takeover of Morris by Austin and the new company was ironically headed by Leonard Lord, who had quarrelled bitterly with Morris in the 1930s and sworn to exact his revenge. Morris became president of BMC but was no more than a figurehead; at 74 his time had gone.

The formation of BMC made little immediate difference to the marque names. With separate Austin and Morris dealer networks to supply, it was essental that two model ranges were kept going, even if that meant the now discredited practice of badge engineering, under which identical vehicles carried Austin and Morris names.

When BMC was absorbed into British Leyland in 1968, a policy was formulated by which the Austin marque was to be used for advanced cars and Morris for conventionally engineered models. Thus the Maxi and Allegro, with their front-wheel drive and transverse engines, became Austins, and the Marina, a basic vehicle designed for fleet users, was designated a Morris.

The idea at least had the merit of trying to give the marques a distinctive personality, though it may have been a little unfair to Morris, which had, after all, been responsible for the Minor and thereby given a dicisive push to the career of the man who went on to invent the Mini, Sir Alec Issigonis.

Badge engineering had a final brief splutter when the 1800 was replaced by the 18-22 Series in Austin, Morris and Wolseley versions; but after a year or so the names were dropped and the car was renamed the Princess. By now British Leyland had been nationalized and yet another policy was being formulated, to dispense with marque names and call the cars simply Mini, Maxi and Princess.

Under Sir Michael Edwardes almost the opposite line was pursued: his plan was to decentralize the company and restore the marques to their old importance. But unless he went back to badge engineering (arguably what has happened with MG) there was no possibility, given BL's much rationalized model range, of all the names being continued.

The matter was put out to market research and two things were discovered: Rover had a stronger image with the motoring public than Triumph, and Austin came out more strongly than Morris. Thus the volume car division of Bl, which might have been called Triumph Morris, is instead known as Austin Rover.

Once that decision was taken the Morris name was clearly doomed. It will, however, live on in a few countries, including Pakistan where BL is embarking on a project with two partners for local assembly of the Ital.

Road test

I can see the time fast approaching when most of the needs of the family motorist will be met by a car no more than 12ft long. It may be desirable to have a bigger vehicle to show one's status or impress the neighbours but from the practical point of view there will be few disadvantages in choosing from the so-called supermini sector.

The Peugeot 205 is already a long way towards meeting the argument, being a well designed, thoroughly efficient vehicle that scores well in all the important areas. Not only does it have the obvious attributes of a car of its size, excellent fuel economy, manoeuvrability, but it matches bigger cars in several other respects.

Take refinement. Generally speaking, the smaller the car the noisier it becomes but with the Peugeot little allowance has to be made. The engine moves sweetly and smoothly, hardly ever sounds fussed and, with the help of the fifth gear, gives motorway cruising as relaxed as one would wish for. Wind and road noise are also well suppressed.

That impressive achievement is partly thanks to good aerodynamics. With even the window seals and door locks playing their part, the Peugeot's smooth (and stylish) shape has a drag coefficient, outstanding for the class, of only 0.35. Noise and vibration is also reduced by mounting the engine on rubber blocks.

Nor is the car lacking in performance. The engine, the Peugeot 1360cc unit substantially revised for this model, gives both brisk acceleration through the gears and surprising flexibility in fourth and even fifth. Even with a full load, it is possible to pull away strongly without having to change down.

The thrid important area where the 205 stands comparison with bigger cars is comfort. Though interior space is not quite as generous as Peugeot's advertising woud have you believe, two medium-sized adults can be happily accommodated in the back, to which the wide doors give easy access. The seats are trim enough to give good support.

All Peugeot's are distinguished by the quality of their ride. This one, bearing in mind its size, is exceptional, the suspension being beautifully balanced so that it not only absorbs the bumps but eliminates any trace of pitch or wallow.

Performances and fuel consumption are enhanced by the various weight-saving measures from light alloy framed seats to lightweight glass for the side windows. The 205 weighs less than the 104 model it replaces and consumption is distinctly better, even if the official figures should be treated with care. In admittedly heavy traffic, my returns in town were little better than 30mpg. The 11-gallon tank is unusually big for the type of car.

A smooth ride does not always go with crisp handling but the 205 is a nimble vehicle, with good grip and little bodyroll on corners. The steering is a little heavy at parking speed but always precise and there is a pleasant gearchange.

The rear seats can be folded down individually to increase the luggage area, though not with that useful two-thirds/one-third split offered on the Metro.

Standard equipment on this, the middle of the range, includes two invaluable aids to visability, a wash/wipe for the rear screen and a driver's door mirror adjustable from inside the car.

The one blemish on an otherwise outstanding car is the ventilation system, which provides a weak flow (even when boosted by a dreadfully noisy fan) and cannot give that often desirable mixture of a cool head and warm feet.

Vital statistics

Model: Peugeot 205GR.
Price: £4,995.
Engine: 1,360cc 4cyl.
Performance: Max speed 95mph, 0-60mph 13 seconds.
Official consumption: Urban 42.2mpg, 56mph 61.4mpg, 75mph 44.1mph.
Length: 12ft 1.9ins
Insurance: Group 3

Continued on page 31

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Jeremiah 4: 3

BIRTHS

ATTREE - On February 20th, at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, to Moira (nee Ennis) and Michael - a son Stephen James.

BIGGS. - On February 23th, to Tessa and Nick, a son (Henry George Corr).

BLUNT. - On February 17 to Miranda (nee McKenzie), wife of Michael Blunt, a daughter, Victoria.

BRAZEL - On Feb. 19, to Lucinda (nee Stanley) and Peter, of Lyndhurst, South Australia - a son (Thomas Owen).

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AVIATION & GENERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD. Announce that with effect from 10th February 1984 Mr. F. B Corby, M.A., F.I.A., is elected Deputy Chairman of the Company.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001082 of 1984
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
MR REGISTRAR BRADBURN

In the Matter of LONDON SUMATRA

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001973 of 1983

In the High Court of Justice. In the Matter of BOTTOMS UP Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

By Order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, dated the 28th day of July, 1983.

It is ordered that Patrick Walter John Hartigan of 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AJ, Certified Accountant, be and he is hereby appointed LIQUIDATOR of the said Company together with a COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

Dated this 8th day of February, 1984.

P W. J. HARTIGAN
Liquidator.

No. 00706 of 1983

In the High Court of Justice in the Matter of TEMPO Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

By Order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, dated the 14th day of July, 1983.

It is ordered that Patrick Walter John Hartigan of 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AJ, Certified Accountant, be and he is hereby appointed LIQUIDATOR of the said Company together with a COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

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THE ROYAL OPERA
Tomor at 7.30pm, Andrea Chénier (new production) Wed at 7.30pm, La Boheme.

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BARBICAN HALL, Barbican Centre EC2 01-638 8891 01-628 8795 Ton't 8.00 LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA. ALEXANDER FARRIS cond, JOHN BINGHAM piano Rossini, Ov 'Barber of Seville'; Bizet: L'Arlesienne Suite No 2; Grieg: Piano Concerto in A minor; Tchaikovsky: Capriccio Italienne; Borodin: Polovtsian Dances. Tomor. 7.45 Halle Orchestra, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski cond

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BARBICAN THEATRE. ton't 7.30 tomor 2.00 & 7.30. Mon 7.30 MAYDAYS by David Edgar. - New Play Plays & Players 1983. "Triumph ... cannot be missed" Punch (runs 3½ hrs). Tues-Thurs MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING with Derek Jacobi - winner of 4 awards as Best Actor 1983. Day seats £4 from 10am. THE PIT ton't 7.30, tomor 2.00 & 7.30 Mon 7.30 THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY by Nicholas Wright (runs 2¾ hrs). Booking opens tomor for new season from 11 April MEASURE FOR MEASURE, COMEDY OF ERRORS, JULIUS CAESAR, VOLPONE, LIFE'S A DREAM & THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE.

BLOOMSBURY, Gordon St, WC1 S CC 387 9629 Ton't, Tomor 7.30. UCL Opera bi-centenary perf of Louis Spohr's FAUST.

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Dated this 15th day of February 1984

P MONJACK
Liquidator

In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 to 1981 and in the Matter of LONDON SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY (HOLDINGS) Limited and THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY Limited (Both Companies in Creditors Voluntary Liquidation).

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the COMPANIES ACT 1948, that General Meetings of the members of the above named companies will be held at: 8 St Bride Street London EC4A 4DA on Friday the 16th day of March 1984 at 10.30 in the forenoon to be followed at 11.00 a.m. by General Meetings of the Creditors, for the purposes of receiving an account of the Liquidator's acts and dealings and of the conduct of the winding up of each company.

Dated this 20th day of February 1984

P. W. G. DUBUISSON F.C.A.
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee.

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. News, sport, weather and travel information.

6.30 Breakfast Time. Frank Bough and Fern Britton share the sofa to ease us into the half hourly news between 5.30 and 8.30; regional news, weather, traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15; sport 6.40, 7.40; morning papers at 7.18, 8.18; horoscope at 8.33. Today's specials include gardening with Alan Titchmarsh between 7.30 and 7.45, Glynn Christian in the kitchen after 8.30

9.00 Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle. Cartoon. 9.20 My Music. Steve Race tests the musical knowledge of Frank Muir and John Amis, on one side, and Denis Norden and Ian Wallace on the other (r). 9.45 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School. 10.55 Play Ideas. 11.05 Ceefax.

12.30 News, weather with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. 12.57 Financial Report and news headlines (London only).

1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Peter Seabrook is back in the garden. 1.45 Bagpuss.

2.00 Film: Ziegfeld Follies (1946): Sparkling musical revue has the legendary impresario Flo (William Powell) producing one last show from that great variety hall in the sky. Among those commanded to appear are Fred Astaire (with Limehouse Blues), Judy Garland, Gene Kelly, Lena Horne and MGM mermaid Esther Williams in an underwater ballet. Director Vincente Minnelli made the most of his lavish budget.

3.50 Magic Roundabout.(r) 3.55 Play School 4.20 The Adventures of Tin Tin. Cartoon. 4.25 Jackanory. Penelope Keith reads The Princess and the Frog. 4.40 Wildtrack. Junior wildlife magazine advises on differentiating between grey squirrels, and owl watching.

5.05 Grange Hill. To the Yorkshire Dales for a spot of orienteering with class N3.

5.35 The Wombles.

5.40 Sixty Minutes. Jan Leeming reads the news, then the line-up takes in weather (5.40); regional magazines (5.55); closing headlines (6.38).

6.40 Doctor Who: Planet of Fire. It's Sarn, a volcanic creation in the outer reaches of the BBC cosmos of Television Centre. Peter Davison is the time-travelling hero in this second quarter of the saga.

7.05 Junior Superstars. Eight youngsters contest the final of this multi-sports challenge, at RAF Cosford.

7.55 Sharon and Elsie. Mother-in-law trouble for Elsie (Brigit Forsyth) when she plans a summer holiday in North Africa. Enid (Diana King) would rather stick to the Lake District.

8.20 We Got It Made. The housekeeping honey (Teri Copley) pretends to be engaged to rid herself of a beefy ex-boyfriend in this American domestic comedy.

8.45 Points of View. Barry Took makes light of viewers' views.

9.00 News, weekend weather.

9.25 Remington Steele. The Gucci gumshoes, Stephanie Zimbalist and Pierce Brosnan, investigate an apparent murder in the art world.

10.15 The Further Adventures of Lucky Jim. Enn Reitel plays the accident-prone hero updated from Kingsley Amis by Clement and La Frenais (r) (*see also Regional Variations*).

10.45 News headlines, weather.

10.50 Film: Endless Night (1972): Tonight's other Agatha Christie yarn stars Hywel Bennett and Hayley Mills (*see Choice*).

12.30 Closedown.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain. With Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. Today's specials include John Inman at 8.10; Nigel Dempster's view of the Princess of Wales, 8.15; holiday advice on Spain, 8.20; Diana Dors, 8.45; Roland Rat from 9.03. Today's guest: Christopher Reeve, from 7.40.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames News Headlines.

9.30 For Schools: Your Living Body. 9.47 How We Used to Live. 10.09 Secret Childhood Haunts. 10.26 Time. 10.43 Economics. 11.05 Middle English. 11.22 Animal Movie. Cartoon. 11.39 History in Action. Washington in the Depression.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch. 12.10 Rainbow. 12.30 Survival. A Triumph of Eagles. Fish eagles over Lake Malawi.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.

1.30 About Britain: Clive's Coast. Clive Gunnell beats a path from Lynton to Glenthorne.

2.00 Just Our Luck. Sixties pop star Roy Orbison turns up in this episode of the genie sit-com. 2.30 Falcon Crest. Chase is in a coma after being shot. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. The workers revolt

4.00 Rainbow (r). 4.20 Batfink. 4.25 Sooty. Johnny Morris guests. 4.50 Freetime. 5.15 The Young Doctors. Laura deteriorates.

5.45 News. 6.00 The Six O'Clock Show. Metropolitan magazine.

7.00 The Zodiac Game. Starry fun involves Leslie Phillips (Aries), Roy Kinnear (Capricorn), Dana (Virgo) and Isla St Clair (Taurus).

7.30 The A-Team. Look out for Keye Luke (Number One Son of the early Charlie Chan films) in this take-away edition in which George Peppard's action men scare off mobsters demanding protection money from a Chinaman.

8.30 The Other 'Arf. The class-conscious comedy returns with Lorraine Chase as the Cockney sparrer and John Standing the aristocratic peacock who share a married nest, though this may not be quite the right term after a rich relation leaves them a 2,000 acre estate.

9.00 Killer Exposed. Another nasty piece by Eric Wendell (responsible for last week's implausible *Killer Waiting*) casts Anthony Valentine as a demented dentist (a killer driller?) whose victim, a blousy blonde, begins to exert a strange influence over the policewoman (Dearbhla Molloy) investigating her brutal murder. Molly Radlove is almost a caricature as the archetypal tart, from her stilettos to her suspender belt. I just question the morality of making this celebration of malevolence.

10.00 News at Ten, then London News headlines.

10.30 The London Programme worries about the state of the GP service in London and the use of deputising services at nights and weekends. Critics claim that many GPs are too old, reluctant to retire, and content with old-fashioned premises and inadequate facilities.

11.00 Bosom Buddies. Kip resigns.

11.30 South of Watford. Fringe comediennes, including Helen Lederer, Jenny Lecoat and *Comic Strip* couple French and Saunders.

12.00 Bizarre. Cut-price Canadian cable comedy series.

12.30 Dragnet.* Joe Friday (Jack Webb) chases drug smugglers.

1.00 Night Thoughts from Michael Meacher, MP, then Closedown.

Adam Faith (BBC 2, 10.05 pm)

● THE DINKA BRIDE (BBC 2, 7.45pm) and her groom, Marial, had no time to fall in love. In fact, on their wedding day, Marial was in Leeds studying engineering. He had to sell all his precious cows (the currency of the nomadic Sudanese Dinka herdsmen) to get there. And in his absence, his family disposed of another 90 to engineer his marriage to a pretty girl from the same transient village. Being the eldest son, Marial had to marry before his brothers could. Simon Normanton's fascinating film follows Marial home to meet his bride and arrange for her flight to England. But first, there's some lively bargaining to be completed, as the in-laws and their respective family elders thrash out a suitable dowry. Marial now has mixed feelings about his dusty home after four years as a student

CHOICE

in the west, while his shy bride has no idea what to expect. But the cultural differences between the Upper Nile and the north of England are not as irreconcilable as would at first seem. An absorbing and worthwhile repeat from *The World About Us*.

● A couple of old dark house thrillers to keep you within ducking distance of the duvet tonight poses a choice between Agatha Christie's ENDLESS NIGHT (BBC 1, 10.50pm), employing for the third time the *Twisted Nerve* partnership of Hywel Bennett and Hayley Mills. She is an American heiress who buys an English stately home. He is an unctiously evil chauffeur trying to drive her to an early grave.

● THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE (Channel 4, 11.20pm), an archetypal Gothic horror directed by a master of film noir, Robert Siodmak, supported by a master of monochrome camerawork, Nicholas Musuraca, against a creaky, shadowfilled New England mansion, dominated by the spooky architectural feature of the title. A maniac with a preference for killing handicapped women terrorises Dorothy McGuire, a young maid whose traumatic childhood has already made her deaf and dumb, and thus the perfect vulnerable victim. Miss McGuire is flanked by two experienced scene-stealers, Ethel Barrymore, as the beastly bed-bound mistress of the house, and Elsa Lanchester as her alcoholic housekeeper.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Maths Methods. Population Modelling. 6.30 Psychology. Defining the Field. 6.55 Your Own Optics Laboratory. 7.20 From Petroleum to Polyethylene. 7.45 Biology. Brain and Behaviour.

9.00 Ceefax.

9.08 Daytime on Two: Educational programmes beginning with Food and Population. 9.35 Maths-in-a-Box. Weight Watchers. 9.52 The Boy From Space. 10.15 Mathscore Two. 10.38 Exploring Science. Cells. 11.00 Illustrating flowers and butterflies. 11.22 River Landscape. That of the Tees. 11.44 Honesty at Work. 12.05 Making the Most of the Micro. 12.30 Micros in the Classroom. 12.55 Speak for Yourself. 1.20 Ceefax. 1.38 How a department store functions. 2.01 Play about parenthood. 2.30 Media Studies. TV reporter Kate Adie.

2.50 Ceefax.

5.05 Weekend Outlook. Open University preview. 5.10 Bridging the Gap. OU study.

5.35 News, weather.

5.40 Film: Murder Ahoy (1964)* First of two Agatha Christie films today, but sadly Margaret Rutherford's last as the resilient Miss Marple. This one involves murder on a naval cadet ship. Captain Lionel Jeffries pipes her aboard.

7.10 ORS 84. Rock music from The Cure, General Public and Immaculate Fools.

7.45 The World About Us: The Dinka Bride. An arranged marriage in the Sudan (see *Choice*).

8.35 Gardeners' World. Cloches on the cheap and a guide to bedding plants.

9.00 M*A*S*H. A champion boxer has a stroke while visiting the 4077th, and the reporters clamour for a story. But when BJ saves the life of a G.I. thanks to his pioneering electric shock treatment, the news desks yawn.

9.25 Whicker! Alan Whicker chats to Sir Geoffrey Jackson, the former ambassador to Uraguay, kidnapped by terrorists.

10.05 Just Another Little Blues Song. And just another dreary little play, despite the obvious attraction of Adam Faith in the lead as a has-been jazz saxist, in money trouble with the heavy mob. Director John Bruce strains to pad out first-time playwright John Harvey's minimal dialogue so that it actually gets to the final, barbaric frame. Gwen Taylor makes her third appearance of the week (after Monday's Spanish holiday comedy *Duty Free* and Tuesday's play, *A Coming to Terms for Billy*) as the jaded jazzer's wife.

10.50 Newsnight.

11.35 Whistle Test. With the Cocteau Twins and the black music band, Aswad (again).

12.00 Closedown.

CHANNEL 4

2.00 Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v Italy at Telford, where David Lloyd will be assisting with the commentary over the three days of the first round tussle. His brother John, Colin Dowdeswell and Buster Motram are seeded.

5.30 The Tube Lively, live rock show from the Newcastle studio of Tyne Tees Television lines-up as guest groups, Big Country, China Crisis and Aswad, the young black band who also appear on *Whistle Test* later tonight (BBC 2) and in concert on BBC 2/Radio 1 tomorrow night.

7.00 Channel 4 News.

7.30 Right to Reply. Gus Macdonald and Channel 4 take intelligent criticism from viewers rather more seriously than the BBC and its mocking *Points of View*.

8.00 A Week in Politics. Presented by Peter Jay. The housing benefits muddle is examined and Dr Rhodes Boyson is interviewed.

8.40 What the Papers Say. Peter Paterson, a freelance Fleet Street journalist, gingerly bites the hand that he also feeds, in this look back in wonder at the week's national newspapers.

9.00 Dream Stuffing. Jude arranges TV coverage and chains herself to the door of the launderette to protest against the imminent eviction of Mo's mum for non-payment of rent. Rachael Weaver and Amanda Symonds play the flatmates, Maria Charles plays the flat broke May.

9.30 The Lady is a Tramp. Johnny Speight's tramp comedy with the two Pats, Hayes and Coombs, creates a guest role for Warren Mitchell, to complete the foursome (with Speight, Hayes and director Dennis Main Wilson) that proved so effective in *Till Death Us Do Part*. Here, he plays an eccentric gentleman of the road, viewed with suspicion by the two queens of the rubbish dump.

10.00 Cheers. Good-natured bar-room comedy from the same garage as *Taxi* obviously seeks to frighten fans tonight with an episode that calls for the winsome waitress Diane to hand in her notice. She wants to prove that she can get a better job. Sam, however, is prepared to bet she can't. Shelley Long and Ted Danson play the quarrelsome couple.

10.30 Well Being. Alternative treatments for chronic pain, when conventional drugs have failed, are now on offer at Liverpool's Walton Hospital, a leading centre for pain research. Sufferers are taught how to control their pain by mental and physical means. A hypnotherapist, Joe Keeton, advises autosuggestion.

11.20 Film: The Spiral Staircase (1946)*. Psychopathic thriller stars Dorothy McGuire (*see Choice*)

12.55 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs: Woody Hermant (r).
9.45 Feedback, with Simon Bates.
10.00 News: Science Now.
10.30 Morning Story: "My Uncle Lennie" by Hill Slavid. Read by Cyril Shaps (r).
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News. Travel; You The Jury. The motion on trial. Public examinations at the end of compulsory education should be abolished (r).
11.48 Nature Selection.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice.
12.27 Funny Peculiar†. 12.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Bristol. Includes a feature about some of the Vietnamese boat people living in the West Country.
3.00 News; Kipps 'The Story of a Simple Soul' by H G Wells. Dramatized in five parts (1). With Mark Straker as Kipps (r).
4.00 News; Just After Four. Ian Grimble on certainty
4.10 War and Peace in Our Time. Geoffrey Stern examines the persistence of welfare (2) Algerian Independence.
4.40 Story Time: 'Atlantic City Proof' by Christopher Cook Gilmore (15). Read by the author
5.00 News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? from Shrewsbury With David Blunkett, Tony Ball, Anthony Havard, and Sheila Quinn.
9.15 Letter From America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 John Ebdon in the BBC Sound Archives.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes the Eugene Atget exhibition at the Serpentine Gallery
10.15 A Book At Bedtime: 'The Lost Domain' by Alain-Fournier (10). Read by Michael Williams.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending A satirical review of the week's news
12.00 News 12.10 Weather 12.15-Close Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND. VHF as above except 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel 10.45-12.00 For Schools. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner 2.00-3.00 For Schools 5.50-5.55 PM 11.00-12.00 Study on 4 12.30 Deutsch fur die Oberstufe.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. J. C. Bach's overture Artaserse; Gibbons's Hosanna to the Son of God, Bach's Flute Sonata in E minor BWV.1034 (Stastny, flute, Harnoncourt (cello) and Tachezi (harpsichord); Campra's Suite Tancrède, and Mozart's Horn Quintet in E flat L 407 (Baumann, horn, and Esterhazy String Quartet).†8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Berwald's Symphonic poem Festival of the Bayadères; Liszt's Two Concert Studies, G 145 (Jorge Bolet, piano); Stravinsky's Concertino for 13 instruments; and Sibelius's The Tempest: Prelude and Suite No 1 Op 109.†9.00 News
9.05 This Week's Composer: Herbert Howells Concerto for String Orchestra Berkeley's Hunt (Howells's Clavichord Ruth Dyson, clavichord), and the Requiem (Croydon Singers.†
10.00 Martin Jones: piano recital. Brahms's Variations Op 21 No 1; and Reubke's Sonata in B flat minor.†
10.45 Langham Chamber Orchestra: Dusek's Symphony in C; Kozeluh's Symphony in A; Myslivecek's Symphony in C.†
11.30 Thomas Hemsley: a song recital by the baritone, with Friedrich Gurtler as his accompanist. Works by Fauré (incl Les berceaux, Chanson de p3cheur; and Les matelots); Roussel (Odes Anacreontiques, Op 31 32); and Hahn (A Chloris, etc).†
12.15 Midday Prom. BBC Philharmonic, with Martin Roscoe (piano). Concert. Part one Dohnanyi's Piano Concerto No 1 †1.00 News
1.05 Six Continents Foreign radio broadcasts
1.20 Midday Prom: part two Haydn's Symphony No 93, and Liszt's symphonic poem Mazeppa.†
2.05 Music for Clarinet and piano: with Colin Bradbury clarinet, and Oliver Davies †
2.45 Bizet: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields play the Symphony in C †
3.20 Music for Fortepiano: Christopher Kite plays Mozart's Fantasy in D minor, K 397, Clementi's Sonata in G minor, Op 7 No 3, Mozart's Rondo in A minor K 511, and Haydn's Fantasy in C H Xvll 4l †
4.00 Choral Evensong from Manchester Cathedral †4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure Schumann, Milhaud and Johann Strauss †
6.30 Music for Guitar Eric Hill plays works by Torroba, arr Hill, and Tristram Cary †
7.00 Enesco RTE Academica String Quartet play the Quartet No 2.†
7.30 Music of Eight Decades BBC Symphony Orch. BBC Singers, and Phyllis Bryn-Julson (soprano) Conducted by Boulez. Part one Webern's Six Pieces for Orchestra Op 6; and Five Pieces for Orchestra, Op 10; and Boulez's Improvisations sur Mallarme 1 11 (first British performance in the new version).†
8.10 The Living Poet: A talk by the poet F T Prince
8.30 Music of Eight Decades, part two. Boulez s Le Soleil des eaux (revised version, 1968), and Bartok s ballet The Miraculous Mandarin †
9.30 Telling Nature: Prof Lewis Wolpert, of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School in conversation with Gunther Stent, Professor of Molecular Biology the University of California
10.00 Carl Dolmetsch and Elizabeth Harwood: with Evelyn Nallen (recorder) and the Dolmetsch Ensemble Purcell's Why Should men quarrel? Lennox Berkeley's Una and the Lion, Scarlatti's Quartettino in F major; Handel's Cantata Nel dolce dell'oblio: Telemann's Rodisetta's aria, and Bach s Jesu, sei dir Preis (cantata No 142).†
10.45 Niels Viggo Bentzon Dennis Lee plays the Sonata No 4, Op 57.†
11.15 News Until 11 18.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 9.00), major bulletins, 7.00am 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am (mf/mw).
4.00am Bill Rennells.† 5.30 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 8.31 Racing Bulletin. 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00pm Steve Jones.†incl 2.02, 3.02 Sport 3.30 Music all the Way.† 4.00 David Hamilton †incl. 4.02; 5.05 Sport - 6.00 John Dunn†incl. 6.02 Sport. 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (MF only) 7.30 Male Voice Choir Competition Second Round Eight choirs compete in this annual knock-out competition 8.15 Friday night is Music Night direct from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London † 9.30 Old Stagers The third of 10 programmes with Brian Haines 3 Grace Moore 9.55 Sports Desk 10.00 The Best of Bentine 10.30 Sounds of the North Mike Harding presents Sounds of North Yorkshire 11.00 Stuart Hall, incl (stereo from midnight) 11.02 Cricket 12.05 Cricket 1.00am Jean Challis presents Nightride, incl 1.02; 2.02 Cricket 3.00-4.00 Night Owls†with Dave Gelly, incl. 3.02 Cricket.

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 8.30pm and then 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (mf/mw)
6.00am Adrian John 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates 11.30 Mike Smith, incl 12.30 Newsbeat 2.00 Gary Davies. 4.30 Select-a-Disc with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat 7.00 Andy Peebles 8.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance (stereo from 10.00) VHF Radios 1 and 2 4.00am With Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty Four Hours 7.30 Rock Back the Clock 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 The Bach Family 8.30 Women of The World 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Album Time 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme 10.30 Business Matters 11.00 World News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 In the Meantime 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 Jazz for the Asking 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty Four Hours 1.30 Radio Theatre 2.15 Letterbox 2.30 John Peel 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Science in Action 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News 5.09 Sarah and Company 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-Four hours News Summary 9.15 Music Now 9.45 Mr Know-all 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 From the Weeklies 11.30 The Overcrowded Arrays 12.00 World News 12.09 News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 About Britain 12.45 Sarah and Company 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Classical Record Review 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 The Seven Deadly Sins 3.50 Recording of the Week 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Let There Be Drums 5.45 The World Today

All times in GMT

BBC 1 Wales: 12.57-1.00pm News of Wales headlines; 3.48-3.50 News of Wales headlines; 5.55 Wales today; 10.15-10.30 Sportfolio; 10.30-11.20 Week in Week out' 11.20-11.21 News of Wales Headlines; 11.21-12.47am Weather, Closes. Scotland: 12.55-1.00pm Scotish News. 5.55 Scotland: Sixty minutes. 9.25-9.55 Agenda. 9.55-10.33 Friday Night with Dougie Donnelly. 10.33-10.35 News Summary. 10.35-11.25 Remington Steel. 11.25-1.00am Film: "Guns of the Magnificent Seven" (1968). George Kennedy, James Whitmore. 1.00 Weather, Close. Northern Ireland: 12.57-1.00pm Northern Ireland News. 3.48-3.50 Northern Ireland News. 5.55 (Part of Sixty Minutes) SCENE around six. 10.15-10.46 Northern Ireland and national News Headlines, Weather. 10.50-12.15am FILM: "Bad Man's River" (1971). Lee Van Cleef, James Mason, Gina Lollobrigida. 12.15 Northern Ireland News, Weather, Close. England: North-East. 12.00-12.30pm North Country: Castle Eden Dene, Couty Durham. 5.55pm Regional Magazines. 10.15 East: Weekend. Midlands: Midlands Tonight. North: Northern Lights. North East: Coast to Coast. North West: Bonney Brid. South: Southern Life: Sir Roland Penrose, surrealist painter, art critic, biographer of Picasso and famer South West: Country Scene West: Women and Waugh. 12.30am Close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Ffenestri. 2.20. Ston Sbri. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Jack's Game. 3.20 Making of Britain. 3.50 Part of Life. 4.15 People's Court. 4.45 Coracthod. 5.00 Be Nesa'? 5.30 The Tube. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.35 Edrych Trwy Y Camerau 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm. 8.30Y Byd Yn El Le. 9.15 Cheers. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 Boy in the Bush. 11.15 Lady is a Tramp. 11.45 Stand Your Ground. 12.15am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Planter's Wife* (Claudette Colbert). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Newhart. 10.30 Friday Live. 12.00 Two of Us 12.30am News, Closedown. ends..

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made simple. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Bunny Lake Is Missing* (Laurence Oliver). 5.15-5.45 Emerdale Farm 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45 Hear Here. 7.00 Zodiac Game. 7.30-8.30 A-Team. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Caall. 11.05 Sweeney. 12.05am Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made Simple 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 On the Market. 2.00 Laurel and Hardy * 3.20 Istanbul, Pearl of the Bosphorus. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Zodiac Game. 6.00 News. 6.05 Weekend. 7.00 A-Team 8.00-8.30 That's My Boy 10.30 Police Squad 11.00 Film Stand Up and be Counted (Jacqueline Bisset) 12.50am Portrait of a Legend. 1.20 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00-3.30 Film: Planter's Wife" (Claudette Colbert). 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes 6.00 News. 6.02 Zodiac Game 6.30 Northern Life. 7.00 A-Team. 8.00-8.30 That's My Boy. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.30am Christian Calendar, Closedown.

HTV As London except: 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Turnabout* Argumentative couple swap bodies. . . 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi 6.00 News 6.30 Problems 7.00 Zodiac Game 7.30-8.30 A-Team 10.30 Good Neighbours Show. 11.00 Film Last Remake of Beau Geste (Marty Fieldman) 12.30 Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.05am -11.20 About Wales 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 So Long, Farewell.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20pm News. 1.30 Clubs 2.05 Wives. 2.10 Film: Amorous Prawn (Ian Carmichael). 3.50-4.00 Ufficiency 5.15-5.45 Happy Day's. 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30 Sport 7.00 A-Team 8.00-8.30 Zodiac Game 10.30 Shelley 11.00 Showcase 11.15 Film: Dracula AD 1972 (Peter Cushing).

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead. 11.39-12.00 Pieces of Eight 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime 2.00 Film Lost in the Desert (Dirkie Hayes) 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Happy Days 6.00 Good Evening Ulster 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Magnum 12.00 News. Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made Simple 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Strange but True 2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Harlem Globetrotters 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Crossfire 11.00 Film Devils of Darkness (William Sylvester). 12.35am News: Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made simple 1.20 News 1.30 Ski Kids 1.35-3.30 Film Paul and Michelle (Amicee Alvina) 5.15-5.45 Zodiac Game 6.00 News 7.00 A-Team 8.00-8.30 That s My Boy 10.35 Sweeny. 11.35 Film Sicilian Cross (Roger Moore) 1 20am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple 1.20-1.30 News 2.00-3.30 Film Good Morning, Boys" (Will Hay) 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00-7.00 About Anglia 10.30 Cross Question 11.05 Snooker. 12.35am World's Apart, Closedown.

TSW As London except 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made Simple 1.20-1.30 News 2.00-3.30 Film Bomb at 10 10 (George Montgomery) 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Today South West 6.30-7.00 What s Ahead 10.34 Shelley 11.00 Film Fear in the Night 12.40am Postscript, Closedown

CHANNEL As London except 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts made Simple 1.20 News 2.00-3.30 Film Bomb at 10 10 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Channel Report 6.30 Crossroads 6.55-7.00 What s On 10.34 in Camera 11.00 Film. Fear in the Night 12.40am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple 1.20-1.30 News 2.00-3.30 Film Stranger Came Home* 5.15-5.45 Zodiac Game 6.00 Calendar 7.00 A-Team 8.00-8.30 That's My Boy 10.30 Shelley 11.00 Mannix 11.55 Last Outlaw 12.50am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN † Stereo *Black and white (r) Repeat

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3: Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Entertainments

CINEMAS

ART GALLERIES

Tour operators avoid France

By John Witherow and John Lawless

The world's biggest traffic jam in France threatened to cause long delays for thousands of British holidaymakers this weekend. Coach operators have spoken of tourists being forced to make unscheduled overnight stops and one travel company was planning to send passengers home by air and train to avoid the lorry dirvers' blockades.

There were signs, however, that plans to evacuate some trapped British drivers by coach from the French Alps may be overtaken by events. Reports last night suggested that the Swiss could be allowing smaller lorries to escape the blockades in the Mont Blanc area, thus easing the pressure for drivers to be flown home from Milan.

The Bus and Coach Council, said about 10,000 British holidaymakers would be travelling through France by coach this weekend. On average most coach journeys have been delayed only a few hours but some schoolboys from Barnet, London, took two days to reach Chamonix, close to the Italian frontier.

Most travel companies have avoided the worst jams and are either going round France or taking minor roads. Schools Abroad, which has about 3,000 children on holiday in France during the half-term break, said

The Bus and Coach Council said it had made emergency permits available so that coaches unable to use the main French ports could drive to Belgium and West Germany for ferry crossings.

"Emergency supplies", including chocolate bars, were being delivered to the 150 trapped British drivers in the Mont Blanc region. Leyland Trucks was sending out warm clothing and food and Tesco 100 sleeping bags. Food, wine and whisky was also sent from a Trust House Forte hotel in Geneva.

● Patricia Clough writes: "We are very worried," said Mrs Linda Hyde, a teacher with a party of 29 children from St Austell, all of whose parents had paid £216 for a week's skiing in Courmayeur. "We don't know how we are going to get home. We havn't been told a thing."

Miss Fiona Carter, the local agent for Cairngorm Ski Services, Ltd., which has 350 children and teachers, 30 ski instructors and 16 drivers in the area, is planning to send them all back home via Switzerland and Germany.



No through road: The Brenner Pass border crossing between Austria and Italy blocked by lorries yesterday.

£160 offered to all trapped drivers

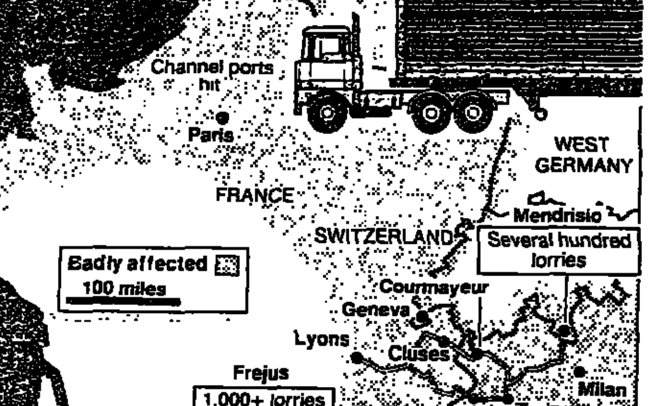
Continued from page 1

the question of using coercive measures to clear the blockades had not been discussed.

"I consider it to be my duty not to set one part of the country against another," M Delors commented. Although there are reports of increasing irritation and anger by road users against the lorry drivers. A poll published yesterday indicated that 54 per cent of the general public approved of the demonstrations and 67 per cent thought the drivers demands justified.

M Delors claimed that dispite the blockades, which numbered well over 200 at midday yesterday, it was still possible for drivers to go wherever they wanted anywhere in the country, by dint of using detours, information about which could be obtained from the prefecture in each department. Alternative routes had already been signposted in many areas, he said.

For the moment, the government is playing for time, hoping that the drivers will soon weary of the dispute. Many have been out in the freezing cold sleeping rough in their lorries for the past nine days. Already there are signs of divisions among



those who feel they have got what they originally asked for and a smaller hard core who want to press on for more.

● LONDON: The French government would be prepared to use the army to clear roads of the blockades, but only as a last resort, Mme Edith Cresson, the French Foreign Trade Minister, said in London yesterday. "Policemen are absolutely unable to drag out lorries of 30 or 40 tonnes," she said.

Mme Cresson claimed, having read French newsagency reports just before giving a press conference at the French Embassy in London last night, that the situation is improving. She said that it was "not jusified to say that the Government does not hold the situation".

The question of compensation claimed by the British Government will be "studied very seriously".

● ROME: Most Italian customs officials have agreed to end their go-slow action which was the original cause of the dispute. The Ministry of Finance guaranteed an increase in the number of customs officials, flexible working and better pay.

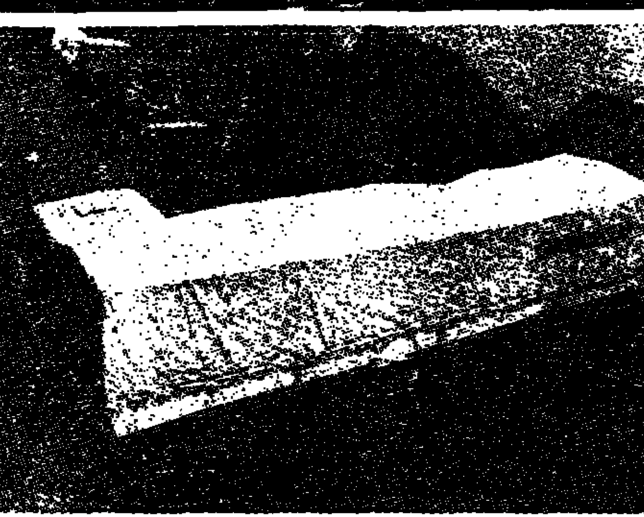
● BRUSSELS: The European Commission yesterday called on the Italian Government to take every necessary step to ensure that customs clearance along its borders was re-established fully and quickly to ensure that free circulation of goods was possible.

The Commission said that if its proposals on frontier controls had been adopted more quickly none of the present problems would have arisen.

● BONN: Traffic jams of up to 15 miles built up on the German motorways leading to the Austrian frontier after Austria closed its borders to German lorries yesterday.

● AMSTERDAM: A spectacular plan to rescue by helicopters Dutch drivers stranded in the Alps was abandoned yesterday after an apparent lack of enthusiasm on the part of the drivers to be evacuated.

● Vienna: The Brenner and several other Austrian frontier posts were blocked by lorry drivers yesterday.





Birmingham blockade: M Charles Alol, a driver from Paris, with police yesterday (left) after unintentionally bringing a French blockade to Birmingham. Trying to reverse his 40-ton lorry in a city centre side street (above) he wedged the vehicle between a wall and a lamp-post, which had to be removed by council workmen – to the cost of his employers. M Alol, aged 27, said: "When I return to Le Havre I will probably be stuck again, but I am in solidarity with my colleagues.

Frank Johnson in New Hampshire

Toxic waste but no decadence

New Hampshire revealed itself as a wintry paradise of sparkling air, resourceful citizenry, pine forests and glistening lakes; the antithesis, in every way, of urban decadence. A man could go steadily mad.

The nearest outpost of refreshing urban decadence was Boston, Mass, where we had awakened that morning to the strains of breakfast television interviewing a collection of young people on the pressures and tensions of being the children of the Democratic candidates up in New Hampshire. Also there had been a *Boston Herald* headline warning: "Gay voters start to use muscle."

Miss McGovern, the daughter of the candidate, Mr McGovern, and Miss Hart, the daughter of the candidate, Mr Hart, talked frankly about pressures and tensions. For the foreign visitor, this was absorbing until three more breakfast television items in Boston, and most items seen on Boston nighttime television beamed to New Hampshire, persuaded him that most of American television consists of women talking frankly about pressures and tensions.

The earnest tone was to be found as well in the advertisements which interrupted the news and were sometimes in the form of interviews scarcely dissimilar from those with the candidate in the news itself.

One moment in the evening Mr Mondale was being questioned about whether, going into the New Hampshire primary, Mr Hart was perceived to have momentum. The next moment a woman was being interviewed who has used Dulcolax, a particularly determined laxative, on behalf of which this was an advertisement. "How fast does it work?" inquired the interviewer, sparing us nothing. "Very," she replied grimly.

Mercifully, it was to Mr Hart's rather than to her momentum, to which we then returned.

That morning all the candidates' offspring had agreed that, in the end, the pressures and tensions were worthwhile. Their father simply had to save the republic. After all, "the country had become so repressive under Reagan," said Miss McGovern. Though one's impression of Boston as a city entirley made up of a contented populace slurping the magnificant New England clam chowder did no provide any evidence of this Reagan Terror.

In New Hampshire the sturdy electorate were reputed to have little time for stress and tension or for gays using their muscles. It is a conservative state. For this reason, his opponents hope that Mr Mondale, the candidate of the unions, will do rather less well than in Iowa, though presumably he will still win. The struggle, it seems, is for second place.

Mr Mondale has arrived with his dreaded telephone (see this space yesterday) and Mr Hart with his momentum. The poor astronaut, Mr Glenn, had neither telephone nor, as a result of his collapse in Iowa, momentum.

Mr Hart seemed, therefore, the most interesting study. We traced him to a town called Londonderry, though he could have been in a still more depressing sounding location since the state also has a town called Lebanon.

Londonderry revealed itself to be a most tranquil community. But in Old Auburn Road the people were worried about some toxic waste nearby. In America, nothing can be achieved, apparently, unless one gets the problem on television.

Mr Hart's problem was maintaining his momentum. There was thus an identity of interest between the people of Old Auburn Road and Mr Hart. Awaited by 50 people from television, he arrived in Old Auburn Road and expressed concern about the toxic waste.

At this stage it was unclear whether Mr Hart would ever be president so the television people could afford to be disrespectful to his staff. Mr Hart disappeared into No 103, the home of a family with the Québecois-sounding name of Provencal pronounced, in these parts, Provenkel.

"I'd like you to form a semicirlce in front of him when he comes out of the Provenkels and walks down to the toxic waste," said a staff man to the television horde.

Television man: "So what?"

Well, he did not want too many television people to be actually in the picture. He just wanted to be seen with voters as he walked down the street.

"Won't that make your candidate look rather lonely?" inquired another television man.

Mr Hart emerged, and we all started moving backwards down the street until we reached the toxic waste, at which point half of us fled.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh undertakes engagements in Tadcaster, Leeds and Bradford: visits John Smith Brewery, Tadcaster, 10.05; followed by Killingbeck Hospital, Leeds, 11.45 and then visits Rose Forgrove Limited, Leeds, 1.50; later His Royal Highness visits Lucas Aerospace Electrical Division factory, Bradford, 3.15. In the evening His Royal Highness attends the Variety Club Women of the Year dinner at the Queens Hotel, Leeds, 6.30.

Last chance to see

Images: new paintings and drawings by David Napp, Philip Brown, Shaun Carey and Susan Palin; Royal Museum and Art Gallery, High Street, Canterbury, Kent: Mon to Sat 10 to 5; closed Sun (ends today).

Music

Recital by the Fitzwilliam String Quartet with Moray Welsh (cello); North Bromsgrove High School, School Drive, Bromsgrove, Worcs; 7.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta with Jean-Bernard Pommier, Guildhall, Southampton, 8.

Recital by Marillion, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Lectures

Dinosaurs in Skye – extinction related to granite intrusions? by Dr John David-Bell; Bostar Hall, University College, Oxford, 8.30.

General

Clarinet masterclass with Angela Malsbury, Holburne Museum, Bath, 7.30.

Forthcoming exhibition

The British Museum announces that its exhibition of Buddhist Art of Central Asia from the Stein Collection will open on March 1; Mon to Sat 10-5, 2.30-6, Sun (in Oriental Gallery, north entrance in Montagu Place.) On March 3 the museum presents a talk with sign language interpretation for the deaf, on "Greek Sculpture of the 4th century BC", 11.30 by M Lyttleton.

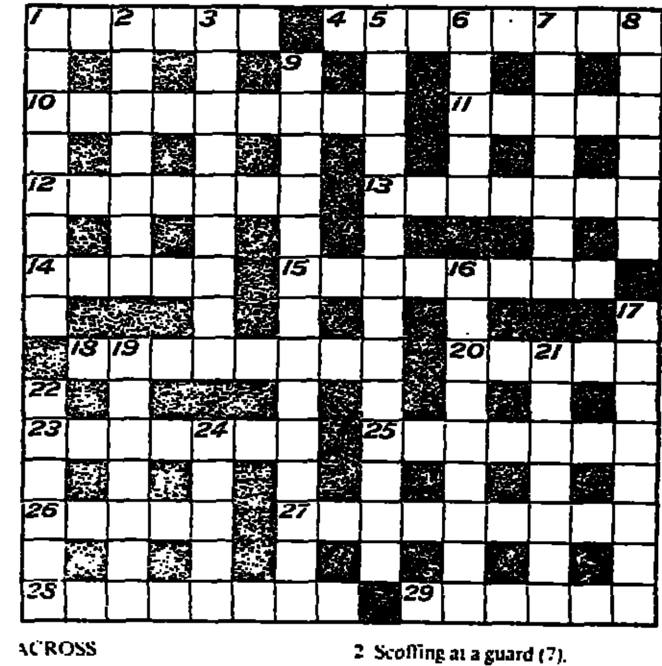
Exhibitions in progress

Mind over matter, an exhibition of sculpture, Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford. Tues to Sun 10 to 5, closed Mon, (ends March 11).

Photographs, pen and ink illustrations and painting by Stuart Roy, Chelmsford and Essex Museum, Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, Essex; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, (ends March 25).

Warp, weft and twine, an exhibition of varied approaches to weaving, Usher Gallery, Lindum Road, Lincoln; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5, (ends March 11).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,363



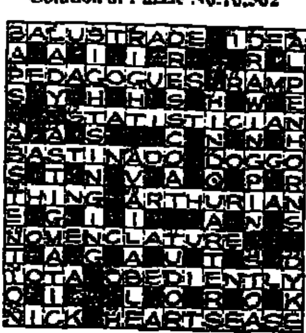
ACROSS

1 A vote on the other side (6).
4 Forward a reasonable claim (8).
10 Soldier about to return with old raider (9).
11 Not at all specialised skill, say (5).
12 Soldiers, with a drunk around, getting food (7).
13 Phantom hero in eternity (7).
14 Bird makes a dog lose its head (5).
15 Hit back about one lad making curses (8).
18 Nests are made into silky stuff (8).
20 Jab, let's say, and pester in return (5).
23 As a feeler, before noon – no Scotch! (7)
25 Speed around a short distance, going easily (7).
26 Man, briefly, dealing with a misanthrope (5).
27 Disorderly – not even abnormal! (9).
28 Particular point with honours (8).
29 How to stand a soccer team (6).

DOWN

1 Beginning to take a chance with the letters (8).
2 Scoffing at a guard (7).
3 Hush – outbreak of measles, and not a modest one (9).
5 Walter's lot, more adaptable as coast-guards (8,6).
6 Admitted being had (5).
7 Disposition of the army, see – hence chaos about (7).
8 Drawing to wound (6).
9 Sterne's journeyman (14).
16 Master Pistol, a jocularly familiar lad (3,2,1,3).
17 Bust made descriptively impossible (8).
19 Diana going Greek (7).
21 Girl rising – leave a drop (7).
22 Direction briefly repeated with River Festival (6).
24 For the moment there's nobody round about (5).

Solution of Puzzle No.16,362



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Shopping Motif

The Millburngate Shopping Centre in Durham City is to feature on a 20½p postage stamp as part of a set of four stamps on the subject of Urban Renewal, to be issued by the Post Office on April 10. To compliment Durham City Council is producing a four colour illustrated first day cover. Profits being donated to the Mayor of Durham's Charity Appeal Fund, in aid of a vehicle for disabled people at Hylton House, Durham.

Anniversaries

Births: Charles le Brun, painter, Paris, 1619; Winslow Homer, painter, Boston, Massachusetts, 1836; George Moore, novelist, Ballyglass, co Mayo, 1852; Sir Alexander Bustamante, Prime Minister of Jamaica, 1962-67, Blenheim, Hanover, Jamaica, 1884. Deaths: Henry Cavendish, physicist, London, 1810; Robert Fulton, inventor and pioneer of steamboats, New York, 1815; Thomas Bowdler, physician and editor of the *Family Shakespeare* ("without the blemishes"), Rhyddings, near Swansea, 1825. Today is the Feast of Saint Matthias, the Apostle chosen to fill the place of Judas Iscariot (Acts I, 23-26). There is no other mention of him in the New Testament. Traditionally he is said to have been martyred at Colchis.

Food prices

Home-grown potatoes are up a penny a pound this week and after the grim warnings from potato growers in the early autumn this small price rise will not come as a shock. Whites are 13p to 15p a lb, King Edwards and Cara 14p to 17p a lb. Cyprus potatoes are also up by about 3p a lb, ranging from 18p to 22p a lb. English, Dutch and Polish onions show a slight increase at 15p to 20p a lb, but large Spanish, at 24p to 28p a lb, are unchanged. Brussels sprouts, finishing next month, are good quality at 20p to 30p a lb. Cauliflower at 45p to 65p each is excellent, particularly the Brittany Prince.

English Cox and French golden delicious at 30 to 48 and 22p to 35p a lb respectively, are best apple buys this week. Look out for blood oranges, 6p to 12p each, among the many excellent citrus fruit.

Good supplies of British beef ensure stable prices at present: topside and silverside range from £1.96 to £2.34 and boneless brisket from £1.30 to £1.68 a lb. Many shops continue their special promotions on beef, for example Sainsbury topside and silverside at £1.89 a lb, stewing beef at £1.24p a lb and fresh mince 98p a lb. Dewhurst are offering whole New Zealand lambs from £19.50 (69p a lb); sides from £10.27 (73p a lb); lamb chops at 89p a lb and five-pound packs for £4. Marks & Spencer, one of the few outlets to stock chilled New Zealand lamb, are reducing all cuts by 20p a lb from Sat Feb 25. Slight increases in pork prices are expected but should not affect prices in the shops just yet. Safeway have Danish boneless chops, down 40p a lb to 1.59 and whole leg down 20p a lb to 79p a lb. All Marks & Spencer chickens will be down to 69p a lb from Saturday.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.61	1.53
Austria Sch	28.45	26.85
Belgium Fr	85.00	81.00
Canada $	1.87	1.80
Denmark Kr	14.65	13.95
Finland Mkk	8.66	8.26
France Fr	12.25	11.75
Germany DM	3.99	3.81
Greece Dr	164.00	154.00
Hongkong $	11.60	11.00
Ireland Pt		
Italy Lira	2465.00	2365.00
Japan Yen	354.00	338.00
Netherlands Gld	4.52	4.30
Norway kr	11.56	10.96
Portugal Esc	199.00	189.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	227.00	218.00
Sweden Kr	11.98	11.38
Switzerland Fr	3.30	3.13
USA $	1.50	1.45
Yugoslavia Dnr	212.00	202.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 342.6.

London: The *FT* index closed down 9.5 at 806.9.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private Member's motion on democratic rights and living standards of Londoners.

Lords (11): Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) (No 2) Bill, committee.

Roads

Wales an West: A48: Traffic control in Pwllmeyric Hill, Chepstow, Gwent; temporary traffic signals 24 hours a day. A4: Temporary signals controlling traffic in Charlotte Street, Bath, Avon. M4: Lane closures for bridge inspection and repairs between junction 21 and junction 22 across Severn Bridge. Both carriageways affected: off-peak overnight closures.

Midlands: A14: Lane closures in Huntingdon by-pass. A45: Lane closures on Cambridge by-pass. A6: Leicester – Derby road at Kegworth closed: diversion. A131: Delays at Sudbury.

North: A61: West Yorkshire narrows at junction of Marsh Way, Northgate roundabout. A6120: Single-lane traffic in Leeds Outer Ring Road at junction with Spen Lane Leeds: delays. A61: Traffic lights at Worsbrough level crossing.

Scotland: A9: Single lane in Causeway Road, Stirling. A977: Single lane between Gartlove (B910) and Forest Mill, Stirlingshire. A3: Corstorphine Road west of Balgreen Road, Edinburgh, Lothian. Excavations, restrictions.

Information supplied by the AA.

Snow reports

The Times snow reports appear today on page 26.

The papers

The Daily Star asks what is the price of a child's life? "How about £1,500 plus £495 for funeral and other expenses?" That is what Dr Lulitkumar Nirmal offered the parents of Gareth Freeman, aged 22 months, and Shaun Phillips, aged 2½." Gareth died of bronchial pneumonia for which he had been prescribed cough medicine. Shaun died from gastro-enteritis after Dr Nirval declined to sent him to hospital. The £4,000 out-of-court settlement has been agreed with the parents without Dr Nirmal admitting any liability. The paper says it is what lawyers might call "the going rate" – what a court might award to the parents of a child run over by a careless driver, for instance. "That is a fact of legal life deplorable as it might seem. It is also the full price which Dr Nirmal has to pay. For last month he was severly "admonished" by the General Medical Council, which decided to take no further action.

Top films

Top box office films in London:
1 (1) Scarface
2 (3) Under Fire
3 (4) Trading Places
4 (-) Two of a Kind
6 (-) The Sword in the Stone
7 (5) Gorky Park
8 (6) Lianna
9 (9) Never say Never again
10 (7) The Honorary Consul

Top five in the provinces:
1 Scarface
2 Sudden Impact
3 Joysticks
4 The Jungle Book/Mickey's Christmas Carol
5 Gorky Park

Screen International

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure covers much of England and Wales, but a shallow trough of low pressure will cross Scotland during the day.

6 am to midnight

London, central S England, E, W Midlands: Mainly cloudy, some bright intervals, isolated wintry showers; wind NE light or moderate; max temp 5C (41F).

SE, E, central N England, East Anglia: Mainly cloudy, a little rain or sleet at times, perhaps snow in places; wind NE moderate or fresh; max temp 4C (39F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Bright or sunny intervals, isolated wintry showers; wind NE moderate; max temp 6C (43F).

S, N Wales, NW, NE England: Mainly dry, bright or sunny intervals, any fog patches slowly dispersing; wind NE light or moderate, max temp 5-7C (41-45F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Border: Becoming cloudy, outbreaks of rain later, perhaps preceded by sleet or snow; wind variable becoming SW light; max temp 6C (43F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NE, NW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Orkney, Shetlands, Northern Ireland: Mostly cloudy, rain or drizzle at times; wind SW moderate increasing fresh or strong; temp 6-8C (43-46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday, becoming drier in NW, otherwise little change.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE fresh or strong isolated showers; sea moderate or rough. St Georges Channel, Irish Sea: Wind variable light; sea smooth.

Sun rises: 6.58 am. Sun sets: 5 31 pm.
Moon rises: 2.18 am. Moon sets: 10.28 am.
New moon, March 2.

Lighting-up time

London 6.01 pm to 6.26 am
Bristol 6.10 pm to 6.36 am
Edinburgh 6.05 pm to 6.48 am
Manchester 6.05 pm to 6.38 am
Penzance 6.24 pm to 6.46 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; sn, snow; s, sun.

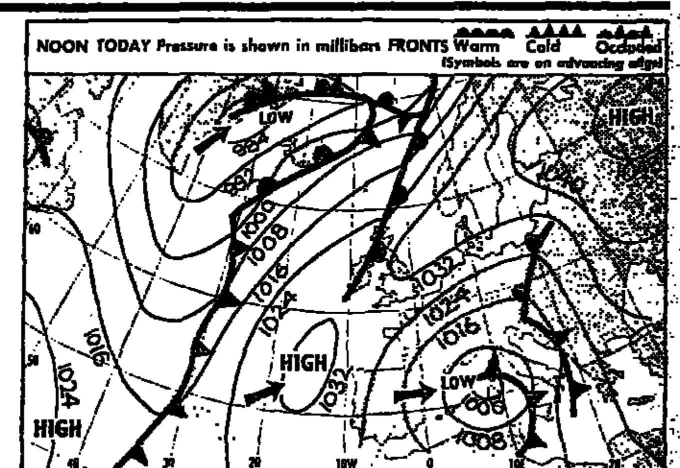
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	6	43	Guernsey	f	6	43
Birmingham	r	3	37	Inverness	f	6	43
Blackpool	c	5	41	Jersey	r	5	41
Bristol	c	4	39	London	c	4	39
Cardiff	c	5	41	Manchester	c	4	39
Edinburgh	c	4	39	Newcastle	c	4	39
Glasgow	c	5	41	Ronaldsway	c	5	41

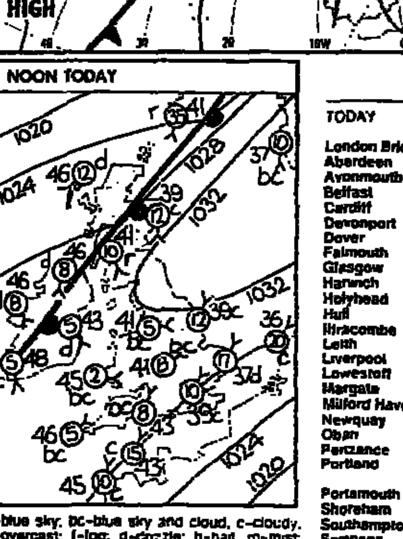
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Isles of Scilly 9C (48F); lowest day max: Cottesmur 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Eastborne, Herstmonceux (Sussex) 0.31in; highest sunshine: Colwyn Bay 7.2hr.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 6C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 77 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.12in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.0hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1029.5 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53





b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.59	6.5	7.35	6.2
Aberdeen	6.57	3.3	7.30	3.5
Avonmouth	12.05	11.2	12.27	10.9
Belfast	4.31	3.0	5.06	3.1
Cardiff		12.12		10.1
Devonport	10.55	4.6	11.28	4.5
Dover	4.13	5.9	4.48	5.5
Falmouth	10.25	4.4	10.58	4.3
Glasgow	6.06	4.4	6.20	4.5
Harwich	4.57	3.6	5.37	3.2
Holyhead	3.41	4.6	4.18	4.8
Hull	11.47	6.2		
Ilfracombe	11.19	7.3	11.51	7.0
Leith	8.17	4.7	8.470	4.8
Liverpool	4.24	7.9	4.55	7.7
Lowestoft	2.420	2.3	3.29	1.9
Margate	5.02	4.4	5.44	4.0
Milford Haven	11.42	5.6		
Newquay	10.41	5.7	11.15	5.4
Oban	10.59	2.9	11.59	2.9
Penzance	10.11	4.6	10.46	4.5
Portland	1.5			11.46
Portsmouth	4.47	4.2	5.23	3.8
Shoreham	4.12	5.4	4.48	5.0
Southampton	4.21	4.1	4.56	3.8
Swansea	11.43	7.7		
Tees	9.24	4.3	9.52	4.5
Walton-on-Naze	4.47	3.8	5.26	3.5

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	0.8	-	5	41	Cloudy
Bridlington	1.4	.01	5	41	Cloudy
Cromer	-				
Lowestoft	-	-	5	41	Cloudy
Clacton	-	-	5	41	Cloudy
Margate	-	-	6	43	Cloudy
Folkestone	1.0	.05	7	45	Drizzle pm
Hastings	1.0	.13	8	46	Drizzle pm
Eastbourne	0.4	.31	7	45	Rain pm
Brighton	-	.11	5	41	Cloudy
Worthing	0.3	.11	6	43	Cloudy
Littlehmptn	1.6	.11	5	41	Bright am
Bognor R	2.3	.13	7	45	Bright am
Southsea	2.0	.11	7	45	Cloudy
Shanklin	3.1	.08	7	45	Cloudy
Bournemth	2.5	.02	6	43	Bright am
Poole	1.4	.07	6	43	Cloudy
Swanage	4.7	.06	6	43	Sunny
Weymouth	1.6	.04	7	45	Cloudy
Exmouth	1.3	-	6	43	Cloudy
Torquay	1.1	.01	6	43	Cloudy
Falmouth	-				
Penzance	3.8	.01	8	46	Bright
Jersey	2.4	.17	8	46	Showers
Guernsey	3.0	-	7	45	Dull
Scilly Isles	3.0	.01	9	48	Bright
Newquay	1.5	.03	8	46	Cloudy
Ilfracombe	-				
Tenby	6.5	.01	7	45	Sunny
Southport	-	-	6	43	Cloudy
Morecambe	0.8	.01	5	41	Cloudy
Douglas	-	-	5	41	Cloudy
London (Ctrl)	-	.12	5	41	Cloudy
B'ham (Airpt)	-	.02	3	37	Rain
Bristol (Ctrl)	-	.03	5	41	Drizzle am
Cardiff (Ctrl)	0.6	-	6	43	Cloudy
Anglesey	1.6	-	6	43	Bright pm
B'pool (Airpt)	0.1	-	5	41	Cloudy
Manchester	0.1	.01	5	41	Cloudy
Nottingham	-	.02	3	37	Drizzle
N'ctl-n-Tyne	-	.01	5	41	Dull
Carlisle	0.8	-	6	43	Cloudy
Eskdalemuir	-	-	3	37	Hail am
Prestwick	-	-	5	41	Cloudy
Glasgow	-	-	5	41	Cloudy
Tiree	0.6	-	7	45	Cloudy
Stornoway	-	-	7	45	Cloudy
Lerwick	1.2	.01	5	41	Bright am

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	r	6	43	Copenhgn	sn	1	34
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Corfu	f	14	57
Alexandria	c	19	66	Dallas*	s	17	63
Algiers	f	15	59	Dublin	c	6	43
Amsterdam	c	1	34	Dubrovnik	r	9	48
Athens	f	15	59	Faro	c	15	59
Bahrain*	s	23	73	Florence*	c	8	46
Barbados*	f	27	81	Frankfurt	c	2	36
Barcelona	r	6	43	Funchal	c	16	61
Beirut*				Geneva	s	4	39
Belgrade	s	4	39	Gibraltar	s		
Berlin	c	1	34	Helsinki	s	-5	23
Bermuda*	f	20	68	Hongkong*	c	18	64
Biarritz	f	9	48	Innsbruck	f	0	32
Boulogne	c	5	41	Istanbul	f	10	50
Bordeaux	c	6	43	Jiddah*	s	27	81
Brussels	c	3	37	Jo'burg*	c	26	79
Budapest	c	3	37	Karachi*	s	19	66
Buen Aires*	f	28	82	Las Palmas	f	19	66
Cairo*	f	19	66	Lisbon	r	13	55
Cape Tn*	s	23	73	Locarno*	f	3	37
C'blanca	f	15	59	L Angeles*	s	16	61
Chicago*	s	13	55	Luxembg	f	3	37
Cologne	f	7	45	Madrid	s	9	48

		C	F			C	F
Majorca	f	11	52	Rio de Jan*	s	30	86
Malaga	f	16	61	Rome	c	12	54
Malta*	s	17	63	Salzburg	c	-2	28
Melbourne*				Sao Paulo*	f	31	88
Mexico C*	s	21	70	S Francisco*	s	12	54
Miami*	c	27	81	Santiago*	s	30	86
Milan	c	6	43	Seoul*	c	4	39
Montreal*	f	0	32	Singapore*	th	26	79
Moscow	s	-5	23	Stockholm*	c	-2	28
Munich	c	-3	27	Strasbourg	s	6	43
Nairobi				Sydney*	s	28	83
Naples	f	13	55	Tangier	c	16	61
New Delhi*	s	14	57	Tel Aviv	s	22	72
New York*	f	7	45	Tenerife	f	18	64
Nice	s	10	50	Tokyo*	s	8	46
Oslo	f	-4	25	Toronto*	s	7	45
Ottawa*				Tunis	f	15	59
Paris	c	5	41	Valencia	s	15	59
Peking*	sn	1	34	Vancouver*	r	4	39
Perth*	c	23	73	Venice	r	4	39
Prague	c	-2	28	Vienna	sn	0	32
Reykjavik	dr	4	39	Warsaw	f	2	36
Rhodes	s	17	63	Washington*	s	11	52
Riyadh*	s	28	82	Zurich	s	2	36

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

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